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OTTAWA, MAY 15, 1926.

No. 2.

CHILD WELFARE AT THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS.

The Child Welfare Committee of the League of Nations is really part of the Advisory Commission for the Protection and Welfare of Children and Young Persons. This Commission is composed of government representatives, called delegates, who sit for the British Empire, France, Italy, Japan, Spain, Belgium, Denmark, Poland, Roumania and Uruguay with the United States represented in a "consultative" relation. This Commission sits with one group of assessors, as the Committee on The Traffic in Women. On this Committee Canada has no representation. It deals with the questions arising under Section 23C of the Covenant of the League, i. e., the supervision of existing international treaties, etc., on the Traffic in Women and Children.

The same group of government delegates, with a different group of assessors form the Child Welfare Committee. This latter Committee was formed in 1925, and had held but one meeting prior to the recent meeting which opened in March, and consequently much of its work is devoted to the outlining and planning of what representations will be made to the League Council on the Child Welfare work which might properly be undertaken by the League itself, through the Social Section or through the Secretariat.

The sessions of the Committee were held in the Palais des Nations overlooking the Quai Woodrow Wilson (formerly part of the Quai Mont Blanc) and the blue Rhone, in its lake-like calm at the foot of the Saleve. And on very clear days, one may just glimpse Mont Blanc itself beyond the end of the Saleve.

The Committee:

The Committee is presided over by the delegate of Spain, Don Pedro Sangro y Ros de Olano, a charming nobleman of Madrid, quiet, courteous, effective. What strikes one, accustomed to conferences in Canada, is that it is quite in order for the Chairman, as any discussion progresses, to summarize his own opinion, and indicate how he intends to vote. Next to Don Pedro, sat the Vice-Chairman, M. Bourgois, delegate for France. The chairmanship rotates in turn to the different countries and next year, it will go to France. At the Chairman's left sits the secretary, Dame Rachel Crowdy, Chief of the Social and Opium Questions Section of the League. Dame Rachel was invested with the O. B. E. for her war work in the organization and administration of the "W. A. A. C.'s", and has had wide scope for her undoubted executive ability, in the work of the League. She leaves for Canada, in May, later visiting the United States. She has already visited the Antipodes, and of course, knows Europe thoroughly. She is a gifted linguist, and so is admirably equipped in every way for her difficult post. Next her sits the Asst. Sec., Mlle. Colin, also a versatile linguist, and thoroughly informed on European conditions. Miss J. I. Wall, from

the British Home Office has just come out from England to assist Dame Rachel, yet in the short time she has been in Geneva, it is evident, that she will undoubtedly make a valuable contribution to the social work of the League. Canadian and American workers would find Miss Wall remarkably in agreement with many of their standards and principles of child welfare. Miss Figgis, the Secretary of the Social Section of the League will accompany Dame Rachel on her trip to Canada and the United States. She, too, is admirably fitted by experience and personality for her post.

On either side of the 'head table' are ranged the government delegates, with the assessors occupying the seats at each end. France is represented also by a substitute delegate (M. Martin), as is Spain (M. Amador) in view of the extent to which the Chairman and Vice-Chairman are naturally precluded from full and "partial" discussion. The Danish delegate is Dr. Estrid Hein, a prominent woman physician of Copenhagen, who combines a strong personality, and fine, reasonable tolerance with a thorough knowledge of social conditions in her own country. Count Carton de Wiart, too well known in European diplomatic circles to require any detailed mention, is the forceful and able delegate of Belgium. The Marquis Paulucci de Calboli of Italy has given special attention to the question of the effect of the motion picture on child life throughout Europe. He is quiet, grave, courteous and kindly. Next to him sits the Japanese delegate M. Yotaro Sugimura, undoubtedly one of the ablest and best-informed men present. Across the hall, at the other arm of the table, Great Britain is represented by Mr. Maxwell, of the Home Office. Mr. S. R. Harris is the official British delegate but in his absence, Mr. Maxwell made an excellent representative. He is Private Secretary to the Home Secretary, is well posted on all British work and intelligently sympathetic to the varied aspects of the problems in the Dominions. He made an apt and tolerant government spokesman for the Anglo-Saxon peoples, for Miss Grace Abbott was prevented from attending this session. Senator M. Stanislas Posner was the amiable, and well-informed spokesman of the new Poland, a Poland that as he told us, had carved for herself an entirely new Social Code, and is courageous and anxious to do all and everything that science and experience can show, are beneficial for its children. Those who heard him will not soon forget his vivid picture of the thousands of Polish children working in the potato fields, in the cold and rain, and his earnest plea that we do not concentrate too much on the child labour problems in industry only. Roumania sent a young, and excellent delegate, M. Ciuntu, who was able and constructive in debate, and representative of that group of younger diplomatists throughout Europe who are, many of them, more forward-looking than a great number of their more "socially minded" fellows of the new world.

The assessors included M. Henri Rollet, the eminent jurist, representing the International Association for the Protection of Children. Dr. Frederic Humbert, who visits Canada in September, was the energetic representative of the League of Red Cross Societies. He was one of the outstanding workers present. Dame Katherine Furse, a charming Englishwoman, now in Canada, excellently represented the Boy Scouts and Girl Guides (International). Her plea for the recognition of the value of recreation in the life of the child was one of the best items on the agenda. Miss Eglantyne Jebb, the epitome of slender energy represented the "Save the Children" Fund, (International). She is known to Canadians as the

'drafter' of the Children's Charter. At the Committee, she made an excellent presentation of the case for an international convention on the repatriation of abandoned and delinquent children. Miss Eleanor Rathbone, a well known English woman, who represented the Women's International Organizations, is a specialist on Family Allowances and was able to make a valuable contribution on this topic. She is a particularly valiant fighter for the rights of women and children and on different occasions debated her point successfully through the Committee. Mlle. Helene Burniaux, of the International Federation of Trade Unions, a charming Belgian, was amazingly well-informed on all matters affecting Child Labour and made a sustained and successful effort to have the Committee record the necessity of raising the school-leaving age to the age for admission to employment laid down by the Washington Conventions. Miss Julia Lathrop is better known in Canada than many Canadians. It is sufficient, perhaps to say, that her contribution to the Committee was of the same scientific, broad-visioned, comprehensive nature as has characterized her entire work in the child welfare field. Whenever Miss Lathrop spoke it was to urge discussion from the point of view of the unity of the child's whole life and the absolute necessity of retaining before us, always, the vision of normal, wholesome childhood guaranteed by all the resources of science and knowledge.

Sub-Committees Created 1926.

The agenda was necessarily a full one, and much time had to be devoted to setting up the machinery of the Committee itself, for without such special equipment it was evident that much time would be lost and misunderstanding arise on various matters. For instance there were many subjects which the Committee felt should be studied immediately and thoroughly, yet, these were in many instances matters which interlocked with the interests and undertakings of other sections of the League. The difficulties anticipated in this connection, had been somewhat lessened by the appointment to the Committee, at its first meeting of representatives from the Health and the Labour Sections (Mr. Johnstone and Mr. Varlez represented the Labour Office and Dr. Norman White the Health Section at the second meeting). At the session just closed this arrangement was extended by the creation of a Liaison Sub-Committee to consist of Count Carton de Wiart (Belgium), Dr. Estrid Hein (Denmark), a representative of the Health Committee, a representative of the International Labour Office, and (if the invitation extended be accepted) a representative from the Committee on Intellectual Co-Operation. To this Committee will be referred, for report as to their proper scope, all questions arising within the work of the Child Welfare Committee, which involve questions of health, education, labour, etc., in relation to problems of child welfare.

In accordance with the spirit prompting the preceding arrangement it was also decided to request the Council of the League of Nations to invite the Committee on Intellectual Co-operation to nominate a representative as an assessor to the Child Welfare Committee.

A Sub-Committee was also appointed to outline the work which might be undertaken in the protection of Life and Health in Early Infancy. To this Committee were appointed Dr. Estrid Hein (Denmark), M. Martin (France), and assessors, Miss Julia Lathrop (United States), Miss Charlotte Whitton (Canada), Dr. Frederic Humbert (Red Cross), with Dr.

Norman White as "liaison officer." The Sub-Committee decided that any work undertaken in this field would necessarily extend over a very lengthy period, and that the essential preliminary steps would require the preparation of information, as complete as possible, on the present situation in various countries. The report which was adopted by the Committee recommended that the Secretariat should collect and analyze the laws of the various countries relating to: (1) legal provision for pre-natal services; (2) legal provision for infant welfare centres; (3) legal provision for the care of children in their own families, in institutions, or placed out in other homes. This inquiry is to be limited, in general, to the first twelve months of life, but will not exclude important legislation of wider scope, if essentially related. The Health Committee will be asked to co-operate. Supervision of the progress of the inquiry was assigned to the Liaison Sub-Committee.

Legal and Technical Sub-Committee.

Another important piece of machinery was set up in the appointment of a special Legal and Technical Sub-Committee, consisting of Count Carton de Wiart (Belgium), Mr. Harris (Great Britain), and Assessors M. Rollet (International Association for Child Welfare), Miss Jebb (International Save the Children Fund), Miss Whitton (Canada), and a representative of the Labour Office. To this Committee will be referred from time to time the various items on the agenda, in which legal and technical difficulties may arise, requiring detailed study and possible compromise before any basis of international discussion in the full Committee can be proposed. There were in particular two such items on the present agenda—the draft international convention on the assistance or repatriation of Foreign Children, and a similar proposal in relation to the execution of judgments relating to maintenance payable on behalf of children by persons responsible for their support, and living abroad.

International Convention on the Assistance or Repatriation of Foreign Children.

A draft convention was submitted on this matter, to which the Canadian assessor objected on several grounds, but principally because it was drawn from consideration of European conditions, and so was in almost entire conflict with Canadian law and practice. It was pointed out that as far as Canada and the United States were concerned, this question could not be separated from that of immigration and deportation but, in fact, was almost entirely such a problem. It was urged that Canada could hardly be expected to abandon a fairly satisfactory system of law and practice, built up after years of experience as a **receiving** country, for probable adherence to a proposal which had not been drawn with consideration of the problem as she found it. The further objection was advanced that immigration in Canada was a subject of federal jurisdiction, but the care of dependent or neglected children a matter of provincial relief. It was therefore extremely doubtful whether Canada could consider any arrangement which contemplated enforcement of relief, after a given period, to children abandoned within her territory. It was suggested that possibly worthy of study, as a tentative basis of agreement, would be the Canadian practice whereby domicile was acquired five years after legal entry to the country. Before that time the "immigrant" might be considered as subject

to deportation or relief as the case might be. After that time, domicile had been acquired, and automatically Canadian law applied. The necessity of obtaining the consent of the country of origin before resorting to deportation was not a procedure which was likely to be considered for a moment by countries which are so largely "receiving countries," as Canada and the United States. Reference of the convention proposed to all the countries concerned and especially to the "receiving countries" was strongly urged, and most detailed study before the recommendation of any convention to the League Council.

After lengthy discussion this matter was referred, as indicated above, to the Sub-Committee.

Draft Convention on Execution of Judgments Abroad.

The vastly different aspects of this problem as existing in Canada and the United States, in reference to European or Oriental countries, were urged by both assessors from North America. After a most enlightening discussion the following resolution was passed:—

"The Committee having taken note of a draft International Convention drawn up by the International Association for the Protection of Children on the execution of judgments relating to maintenance payable on behalf of children by persons responsible for their support and living abroad,

"And having also taken note of representation as to the desirability of making provision for the reciprocal enforcement in different countries,

"(1) of all obligations on parents for the maintenance of their families.

"(2) of sentences imposed for the offence of deserting the family,

"Decides that all these questions should be submitted for examination to a *Sub-Committee who shall report at the next session."

Child Labour.

An interesting report was presented from the International Labour Office on the ratifications of the Child Labour Conventions, and the reasons why certain countries have not ratified. Canada is placed in a most invidious position in this respect. There is hardly a province in the Dominion in which the existing laws on child labour are not at as high or higher standard than the Conventions themselves. Yet because we lacked provincial uniformity, in many cases attainable by minor amendments to the provincial statutes, Canada is classified with many non-European countries (Persia, China, etc) in her standards of child labour, and Roumania, Poland and many of the European countries, who have not yet recovered from the war, are ranked high above us. The situation places Canada in a most unenviable light, and is due entirely to the lack of public interest in the matter. The Federal Department of Labour has done all that a government department could do to bring about a "national expression" of our child labour standards by uniformity of provincial statutes. Some of the provinces have attempted to do their part, but Canadian public opinion has shown little or no interest. It is incumbent upon every Canadian interested in the Dominion's good name abroad to become familiar with the Conventions, and exert every effort to obtain provincial uniformity, permitting federal adherence.

*Legal and Technical Sub-Committee.

It was interesting to learn that practically every country was faced with the difficulties facing the province of Ontario at the present time, viz., the question of keeping at school the increased school population resulting from the higher age of admission to employment. Also, a peculiarly difficult situation has arisen as the result of some countries having ratified the Conventions without raising the school-leaving age to correspond. Mlle. Helene Burniaux (Belgium), assessor on behalf of the International Trade Unions Federation, made a strong plea on this aspect of the problem resulting in the Committee's endorsement of the following resolution:—

"The Child Welfare Committee having taken note of the report submitted by the International Labour Office on legislation relating to Child Labour, thanks the International Labour Office for this report, and recognizing the necessity of referring all questions relating to labour to the International Labour Office, expresses the hope that the latter will continue to make representations to the governments with a view to the ratification of International Conventions on the admission of children to labour by every country. It also draws attention to the fact brought out by the investigations of the International Labour Office with regard to the relation between the laws on school attendance and labour legislation, and emphasises the importance of extending the age of compulsory school attendance until the age fixed by International Conventions as being the earliest at which children may be allowed to work."

Training of Adolescents.

Certain Canadian organizations had submitted several questions for the consideration of the Committee, notably one on the training and employment of adolescents and adaptation of school curricula to meet their needs. Few items aroused greater interest due to the almost universally arising problem of the practical training for agriculture, for the trades, etc., as well as for the professions of the increased and "higher aged" school population occurring wherever the school age has been raised following the adoption of the higher age for entering industry. The Province of Ontario is now wrestling with the problem following the operation of the Adolescents School Attendance Act. Miss Lathrop made one of the notable addresses of the Session in supporting this item on the agenda and urging a special study of the whole problem on an inspiring scale. She urged that no such opportunity of contributing to our knowledge of and provision for the needs of the normal child had ever arisen. She crystallized the suggestion sent forward from Canada in the following resolution:

"It is proposed to authorize an enquiry into the special field of education for adolescents, the methods employed therein, and its relation with the normal family and social life of the adult.

"It is proposed that in all the Committee's deliberations special attention should be paid to the relation between the life of children in agricultural districts and the education they receive in preparation for the normal family and social life of the adult."

The Committee referred the matter to the Liaison Sub-Committee in the following words:—

"The attention of the Committee having been called to two questions set out in the resolution of Miss Lathrop, it asks the Liaison

Sub-Committee to consider if, and how far, it would be practicable and desirable to make enquiries into these subjects and to present a report for consideration next year"; and has asked for detailed memoranda on the subject from the members especially interested.

Motion Pictures.

One of the most interesting discussions took place on the effect of the cinema in relation to the mental, moral and physical well-being of the child. It was interesting to note that on probably no other question was there such general interest and agreement of opinion. Canadian opinion on this question was keenly sought, as all the Dominion, except Prince Edward Island (where probably less than one per cent. of all our pictures are shown) has legal censorship, as against only seven or eight states of the United States. With her eight different Censor Boards attempting to censor at some approach to a common standard, Canada has attempted in miniature something of what the League Commission visualizes for the world as a whole. There seemed to be entire agreement in the Committee on the necessity and efficacy of censorship. It was urged on the Committee that from Canadian experience censorship should not be looked upon as the panacea. In the end, its standards are dependent on the standards of public opinion, and public opinion must be educated not to the condemnation and suppression of the bad alone, but to the endorsement and active support of what is clean and decent. The system which the Child Welfare Council is attempting at present of the publication of a "white list" of good pictures aroused great interest and commendation. The representative of the Institute on Intellectual Co-operation who was making a special study of this subject strongly agreed with the views expressed by the Canadian assessor, in respect to the greater necessity of a public that would demand decent pictures.

The Committee made a lengthy pronouncement on the whole subject:—

"The Advisory Commission recognizes on the one hand the attraction and importance of the cinematograph in certain circumstances from the point of view of the healthy recreation, instruction and education of children and young people, but it is convinced, on the other hand, that the abuse of the cinema has definitely harmful effects upon the minds of children and young people, and, according to certain medical authorities, upon their nervous system and physical health.

"The Advisory Commission, appreciating the interest felt by the International Institute of Intellectual Co-operation in the question of the cinematograph, desires to assure it of the importance which the Commission itself attaches to the question from the point of view of the normal and intellectual development of children and young people, and requests it to devote special attention to the co-operation of all concerned, in the production, circulation and utilization of good films.

"The Advisory Committee recommends:

"1. That in each State offices for control or preliminary censorship should be established, whose decisions would be enforced by fixed penalties, with a view to preventing the exhibition of demoralizing films; educationists and parents should, so far as possible, be represented in these offices.

"2. That all possible means should be employed to encourage the exhibition and the international exchange of films calculated to promote the intellectual, moral and physical education of children and young people.

"3. That an international understanding should be entered into by the various national offices with a view to communicating to each other the decisions adopted and the penalties imposed in their respective countries, and that such understanding should eventually be extended by means of international agreements to prevent the circulation and use of demoralizing films.

"4. That each State should prescribe the necessary measures of hygiene and security in connection with the ventilation, the cubic capacity, the exits and emergency exits of cinema theatres, and should take steps as soon as possible to prohibit the exhibition of inflammable films."

Recreation.

The recreation of the normal child was the subject of lengthy debate, following Dame Katharine Furse's excellent presentation of the subject. The value of suitable recreation in the treatment of physically and mentally defective children and in the rehabilitation of the delinquent child was especially stressed. Possibly most important from Canada's point of view, at the present time, was the emphasis placed on the relation between town-planning and certain of the problems of child welfare. Expression was given to this opinion as follows:—

"The Committee recognizes the necessity for recreation in the lives of children and young people, providing as it does for their good health both mentally and physically, and resolves to keep this question on its general programme.

"The Committee also appreciates the serious difficulty in providing recreation for young people which is caused by insufficient provision of spaces, both open and covered, in many places. Amongst other disadvantages there is the danger that the children are driven to seek their recreation in the streets, public places, or in places of entertainment which may not always provide for their best physical and moral development.

"The Committee therefore would desire that in all future town planning or improvement schemes provisions should be made for spaces both open and covered, as well as for swimming baths."

Juvenile Courts.

The question of the care of the delinquent child, especially the delinquent adolescent, and of the apparent increase in the breakdown of home discipline, had been sent forward through the Canadian Council on Child Welfare by the Association of Child Protection Officers. The Canadian assessor supported the proposal of the delegate from Great Britain to approach this problem first by obtaining some synopsis of the present situation in various countries. Accordingly the Committee decided to ask the Council of the League "to instruct the Secretariat to collect information and to report to the Committee as to the scope and composition and practice in various countries of the judicial tribunals or other special bodies which deal with cases of children and young people.

"When this preliminary study is sufficiently advanced, such enquiries as may be necessary will be made on the spot, on lines to be laid down by the Committee."

This is a study which should have practical interest and results for every town in Canada.

Alcoholism.

In Canada and the United States, one frequently hears the argument that prohibition and all like forms of restriction on the use of alcoholic beverages is necessary or justifiable because we have learned the taste of "hard" liquors only, and are not accustomed to the "harmless" wines and like drinks of the European. The discussion on the relation of alcoholism to child welfare at the League Commission was therefore doubly interesting,—interesting because precipitated by Europeans, and interesting because of the apparent unanimity of opinion that alcohol and child welfare could not "mix." The Committee had previously asked for a report on the subject from the International Anti-Alcoholism Bureau at Lausanne. On motion of the honourable delegate from Poland, Senator Posner, the following resolution was passed:—

"The Advisory Commission, having noted with a deep sense of gratitude the report of the International Anti-Alcoholism Bureau, and being profoundly impressed by the dangers of this evil to the physical health and intellectual and moral development of children and young people,

"(1) requests the Council to ask the Governments to protect children and young people from this danger by every possible means;

"(2) requests the philanthropic associations to do everythnig in their power to bring this danger to the knowledge of the public (parents, clergy, teachers, press, etc.), and to educate children and young people themselves to a sense of this danger:

"(3) requests the Secretariat to remain in communication with the Lausanne Bureau with a view to supplementing the information already obtained.

"The Committee agreed that the question should be placed on the agenda of a later session."

Family Allowances.

A special report had been submitted to the Committee at its request, on the value of family allowances where they had been tried. This system of augmenting wages by special allowances based on the size of the workman's family is entirely unknown in the practice of Canada and the United States. It has been the subject of some experiment since the war, in Europe however and has been recommended as one of the possible lines of solution, by the British Coal Inquiry Commission in their momentous report, now under consideration. The Committee did not feel that it could yet express itself on the results of this method of social assistance, but did admit that there would seem to have been a reduction in the infant mortality rate of the groups, under such equalization funds. The study will be carried further by the Labour Office and it is hoped that fully comparable material will be obtained. The system being entirely foreign to present Canadian and United States practice will doubtless arouse considerable interest among social workers on this side of the water.

Age of Consent and Legal Age of Marriage.

At the request of the delegate from Uruguay, the Secretariat of the League had made a special study of the laws referring to the age of consent and the legal age of marriage in the various countries with a view to discovering, if possible, the relation between such legislation and the protection of young persons. The study will be completed, it is hoped within the year.

Subjects Submitted by Canadian Organizations.

Variou items were brought before the Committee, at the request of different Canadian organizations. Though these were late in presentation due to the necessity of consulting the organizations themselves, they were accepted for the agenda by the Committee. By agreement these matters were referred to the Liaison Sub-Committee for consideration and report. In presenting them, it was urged upon the Committee that certain of the suggestions might be accepted as they stood. For instance, it was argued that a Canadian suggestion that the apparent increase in maternal mortality should be carefully examined by the Health Section might merely be referred to the Health Section for action. On the question of the relation of malnutrition in the pre-natal and the post-natal period to the problems of child health it was suggested should be related to a study which the Health Section is now making of the Infant Mortality rates since 1880, with a view to establishing proper principles of Infant Feeding. The training of children in Health Habits it was also proposed should go before the Health Section, while similarly the evaluation of the Visiting or Itinerant Teacher in reaching the crippled child or the child in remote areas might become a subject for report from the Institute on Intellectual Co-operation. The question of the proper care and training of the feeble-minded child and also of international agreements on the movement of unaccompanied juveniles from country to country were, it was contended, matters primarily within the scope of the Committee. The Canadian suggestions, without doubt, aroused considerable interest and it is hoped that the Liaison Sub-Committee will be able to arrange that some of the information desired by Canadian workers may be obtained for next session's agenda.

The Blind Child.

The International Committee for the Welfare of the Blind will be asked to submit a report on the best methods of the care and education of the blind child for inclusion in the agenda of the next session. To this study, Canada should be able to contribute something of value, due to the excellent work of the Institute for the Blind, the Provincial Schools and the special work for Halifax children blinded by the war explosion.

Conclusion.

The Child Welfare Committee is one of the newest Committees of the League, though as indicated, it is part of one of the early Advisory Commissions. Necessarily, its work is in its initial stages, and cannot develop until the equipment for its functioning is first created. Once it is in full motion though it is doubtful whether any section gives more promise of uniting the Nations of the World on common ground. As Miss Lathrop suggested, it is difficult to interest people thousands of miles away in the aspect of nations united for (what appears to be) the intangible problem

of the peace of the world, but a man and a woman in a remote clearing in any one of our countries can comprehend the vision of the governments of the world gathering about a table, in some one centre, to make life better and opportunity greater for every child throughout the world. There can be fair agreement among all peoples and races on the essentials of normal, healthy development of the young of the race. On no higher motive than the necessity of his own survival, man can be led to take some interest in this problem. Of the nations of the world gathered at Geneva, generations who shall know our wars but as "old, unhappy, far-off things" may yet bear witness to the fulness of the truth that "a little child shall lead them."

CHARLOTTE WHITTON.

With the Provinces

ALBERTA

Commenting on health work along child welfare lines, the superintendent of the Public Health Nursing Branch states:

"During the year 1925 there were 365 Child Welfare Clinics held in this Province with a total attendance of 13,358 babies and children of pre-school age. Of this number 86 Child Welfare Clinics were held in rural districts.

It is gratifying to note that one of the Calgary Child Welfare Clinic babies obtained the first prize as "The Empire's Best Baby", and a Red-cliff Clinic Baby won second Prize "The Astor Award of Merit" at the Wembley Exhibition last July. These babies were in regular attendance at the Clinics from the time they were one month old, and are both breast fed babies.

Some five years ago the Women's Institutes of the Taber Constituency, through their Child Welfare Convener, organized a series of Child Welfare Clinics throughout their Constituency. Last year Bow Valley followed their example, and in 1924 very successful Clinics were held in both Constituencies. In 1925 Cardston and Pembina Constituencies were added to the list. This method of organization has proved satisfactory and economical. These Constituencies have already expressed their desire of having the work repeated in 1926.

Through a series of pre-natal letters now being printed for us by the Child Welfare Council of Canada, we hope to reach and be able to assist a greater number of mothers this year.

During the year 1925 surveys were made in outlying districts, and as a result two new districts were permanently established. All schools in the vicinity of these districts were visited by the nurse, and the number of children suffering from defects were reported to the Department. During the summer and fall, our Travelling Clinic visited each district. In all 335 medical cases were examined and 58 operations performed for the removal of tonsils and adenoids; 682 cases were examined by the dentist. These travelling clinics do not in any way interfere with the local medical or dental services. They are only sent to districts in which no medical or dental services are available and where the people are not able to provide for these services."

As an indication of their desire to co-operate with the Government of Alberta in its policy of Juvenile Immigration, the Church of England sends to the Superintendent of Dependent Children lists of immigrant children that their societies are placing within the Province, in view of Alberta's proposed legislation making immigrant children wards of the Superintendent on their arrival in the Province.

CALGARY.

The Calgary Council on Child Welfare under the presidency of Mrs. Harold Riley held their annual Child Welfare Week from April 5th to 10th.

General meetings open to the public were held every afternoon, radio talks were broadcast every evening, and in addition the staff of the Provincial Health Department gave talks, illustrated by moving pictures.

The Council is to be congratulated on its speakers who were representative citizens directly engaged in the different sections of Child Welfare.

Judge Murphy, speaking on "The Better Child", said in part:—

"I wish we had a mediator as they have in Sweden. There parents cannot apply for alimony or a divorce until they have first seen the mediator who often succeeds in bringing peace to the household. From broken homes the greatest number of delinquent children, who eventually find their way to the court, come. Street life also contributes toward delinquency. Children are often glad to get away from home because they are cold and badly furnished; the children are badly fed and badly clothed. On the other hand, children who are over indulged are often delinquent. Long before they reach maturity, they have exhausted all the thrills of life.

"Despite the many things I have told you, we are having better times, due to the efforts of the Girl Guides, the C. G. I. T., and Scout movements, along with the work being done by service clubs, and a great many children are being headed off.

"The best homes are republics," she continued, "where parents make confidants of their children and reason with them. 'Come, let us live for our children', should become 'Let us live with our children.' Mothers need never worry about the sacrifices they may be called on to make for their children. They can't sacrifice themselves", the speaker declared, "God is a generous paymaster. He will repay you with a beautiful character and a sweet disposition."

"Teach your children to tell the truth", she warned, "and never let a punishment follow a confession. Teach them that there can be no greater shame than to be known as a liar. Their whole life is wrong if they are not truthful."

"Teach them the value of money. Give them a little bit of their own and teach them to save it. Tell them that it is everyone's duty to earn a livelihood. Often girls complain that they are not getting enough pay, but often it only means that they are grafters—they want something for nothing. But they learn in the end the cost of free auto rides and such pleasures. Teach them to pay their own way."

"Children should be taught to be clean. A churchman once said, when addressing a group of boys, 'If you say your prayers and wash the back of your necks you will know what faith is'.

"Teach them the connection between their school lessons and their value in life. Often children are studying their lessons and they cannot

see the reason behind the work. Teach them that everything they learn in school is applicable in after life, then they will catch the thrill of the inventor.

"Never before in the history of the world", she concluded, "have mothers had the opportunity to make a fine generation. All the great races come from the north. They even have to take our hard wheat to mix with their soft southern wheat. Let us make a strong race to meet the difficulties ahead. (The Calgary Albertan, April 9, 1926.)

Hon. Irene Parlby, M.L.A., spoke on "The Home—a Human Need," pointing out that in its best sense it should mean a place where the family could find sanctuary and privacy, where associations are harmonious, and a spirit of love and service prevails.

"The home is the cynosure of all eyes these days," Mrs. Parlby continued, "and social workers, reformers, clergy and judges, all point to its failure as the prime cause of increased crime and moral delinquency.

Because a woman interests herself in social duties outside the home, it does not necessarily follow that she is neglecting her responsibilities within it, as Mrs. Parlby pointed out, "If you could chain a woman and her children within the four walls of her house you will not necessarily obtain that harmony which is at the root of all home life. It is necessary to recognize," she emphasized, "that the home is going through an evolutionary process, in keeping with the rest of the modern world, and the mere fact of a mother staying at home and looking after the physical well-being of her family does not mean that it will be attractive or draw the child back from the lure of pleasure outside its walls. The home fails," she declared, "because its members do not find satisfaction in its associations."

Other speakers included Mrs. John Drummond, who spoke briefly of the child welfare work carried on by the I. O. D. E.; Mrs. H. M. Conquest, who described the work of Junior Red Cross; Mrs. E. A. Elton, commissioner of the Girl Guides Association, explained the aims and ideals of that organization; Mrs. D. A. McKillop, of the Public Welfare Board, and Mrs. Harvey, of the Juvenile Court, gave addresses on the activities of their respective departments. Rev. Mr. Avison spoke on "The Religious Training of Children," pointing out that after religious development, the second important factor was religious training, and in this the home played a very important part. Rev. Father MacDonald traced briefly the progress in child welfare work, and appealed for more attention being directed to the cultural things of life. The speaker went on to say, "It is true we are better dressed, better housed and have swifter vehicles to carry us, but I do not know that our intellectual advancement has been as great. Too many are inclined to stop their mental development when they stop school. It has only been begun then," he declared. "We need a great diffusion of culture in our homes; they should carry on where the school leaves off."

Father MacDonald, in looking back over the past twenty-five years, ventured to suggest that they would go down in history as marking a great advance in human kindness and a desire for the finer things of life. One found this in the schools, in the home, between different classes and sections of people and in the community.

As in previous years the Calgary Council put on a special film showing

on Saturday morning, when some 3,000 children of Calgary were the guests of the Council.

In her closing address, the President reported the Welfare Week as the most successful ever undertaken and spoke with appreciation of the efforts of the co-operating organizations and individuals. (The Herald, and The Albertan, Calgary, April 6, 8, 9, 10, 1926.)

A report on the work of the Calgary Council on Child Welfare shows the year 1925 to have been the most successful one in its history. Beginning with its Child Welfare Week, where the attendance totalled almost five thousand mothers and children, the Council continued its programme throughout the year.

The Council has gone on record as favoring Health being taught in the schools as a regular subject of the school curriculum, and a resolution embodying this principle was submitted at the annual meeting of the Canadian Council on Child Welfare by Mrs. Riley, where it was adopted and incorporated in the Canadian Council's objective for 1925-1930.

In presenting this same resolution on behalf of the Calgary Council to the Ministers of Education and of Health for Alberta, Mrs. Riley received assurance of most sympathetic consideration from both Departments. As there are approximately five thousand teachers in Alberta, the opportunity afforded for the spread of Health Education would be tremendous.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Vancouver Juvenile Court Case.

Child welfare workers throughout Canada were amazed and chagrined when the press dispatches on February first carried word of a judgment handed down by Mr. Justice Hunter of the Supreme Court of British Columbia, declaring invalid Judge Helen Gregory MacGill's jurisdiction in the Vancouver Juvenile Court, and so declaring invalid her judgments, convictions, etc. Judge MacGill has long been known as one of our most effective and fearless judges, and Canadian workers evinced a personal sympathy in the wave of general dissent that greeted the pronouncement. No little concern was felt in respect to the jurisdiction of some of the other Courts in the provinces, established subsequent to the Vancouver Court. The basis of Mr. Justice Hunter's decision shows that this fear was needless.

The Juvenile Delinquent's Act (Canada 1908) provides for the proclamation of the Act, and, therefore, the setting-up of a Juvenile Court within any province by federal proclamation following an application from said province. Section 34 of the Act provides for such action, where the province has passed legislation providing for the establishment of Juvenile Courts within that province. The following section (35) provides for exactly similar action "notwithstanding that the provincial legislature has not passed an Act such as referred to in Section 34 of this Act, if the Governor-in-Council is satisfied that proper facilities for the due carrying out of the provisions of this Act have been provided in such city, town, or other portion of a province, by the municipal council thereof or otherwise."

It is therefore obvious that the power of the federal authority in both instances is exactly the same. The Vancouver Juvenile Court was established by federal proclamation on the request of the province in 1910. The original proclamation referred to the powers conferred by Section 35 of the

Juvenile Delinquents Act. In the same year, 1910, the British Columbia legislature had passed a provincial Juvenile Courts Act. Consequently the proclamation, which was issued, **after** the passage of the provincial legislation should have referred to **Section 34 not Section 35**. This was taken as the basis of Mr. Justice Hunter's decision declaring the Vancouver Juvenile Court without jurisdiction.

Immediately the decision was given, Judge MacGill's decisions, etc., were held to be invalid and hundreds of her Court wards on probation were released. Action was immediately taken by the province of British Columbia and by the Council at Ottawa to obtain the earliest possible proclamation of the Vancouver Juvenile Court in revised terms. This proclamation was carried in the Canada Gazette Extra of February 20th issued on February 22nd. Immediately the proclamation issued, the Attorney-General of British Columbia announced an Order-in-Council re-appointing Mrs. MacGill Judge of the Vancouver Juvenile Court. And so, this short but exciting episode in our Juvenile Court annals concludes in a manner satisfactory to Judge MacGill's many friends and co-workers.

MANITOBA

Child Health Activities Summarized from the Report of the Public Health Nursing Department for the year ending December 31, 1925.

Health inspections in the schools show 15,503 children examined, and the total number of children found with defects 5,881. 3,845 were referred to private physicians, 429 to clinics, 522 to health officer, 5,764 to dentist and 38 to hospital.

Under classification of defects unsound teeth had the largest total, 3,796; suspected diseased or enlarged tonsils, 2,038; symptoms of enlarged thyroid, 1,012; nasal obstruction, 753; defective vision, 729; symptoms of malnutrition, 389, etc.

Defects known to have been corrected.....	3,489
Number of children not vaccinated	2,156
Number of class-room inspections.....	3,156
Number of children re-inspected for suspected miscellaneous causes	7,166
Number of First Aid treatments given to children..	11,089
Exclusions totalled	1,525.

Health education in the schools comprised 2,620 classroom Health Talks; 29 Little Mothers' Leagues and First Aid Courses; Little Mothers' League classes, 470, with a total attendance of 9,901, and 101 First Aid classes with a total attendance of 1,683.

Forty-four Nutrition classes with an attendance of 485 were conducted in three communities with the object of improving the general health of the children found to be underweight.

Increased facilities for weighing children have provided a valuable means of checking up the health of the children, the number of classes of pupils weighed totalling 151, individual children 1,537.

As an indication of the progress of health training in the schools the report comments on the increased number of requests from teachers for Health Training material, which also reflects great credit on the Nursing Service for their efforts in developing this side of the work.

To arouse the interest of school children as to the importance of school sanitation, a successful School Health competition was held. The

work of the children showed keen interest and a knowledge of the subject, which should not only serve as an aid to the securing of improved sanitary conditions in the schools, but should help in preparing them for their responsibilities as future citizens and school trustees.

The Boys' and Girls' Clubs continue to display great enthusiasm in health matters as evidenced by the requests for instruction in team demonstration work along health lines.

Other work in connection with schools included assistance given physicians with the vaccination of pupils, the swabbing of throats for detection and prevention of diphtheria, and the establishment of hot lunches and improved sanitary conditions.

The work of the permanent dental clinics at Brandon and Portage la Prairie was continued, and temporary clinics were organized in eight school districts with the financial assistance of the School Board, Women's Institutes, United Farm Women, and the Red Cross Society. The total number of dental clinics held was 173, and the total attendance 900. Assistance was also given in conducting mental clinics at Brandon and Portage la Prairie, an eye clinic at The Pas with an attendance of 70, and an orthopedic clinic at Haas.

Health work as carried on in the normal schools at Winnipeg, Brandon, Dauphin and Maniton consisted of 119 lectures to students, the number of students receiving instruction 569. In addition 569 normal students were examined by a public health nurse, disclosing 328 with defects.

Instruction and inspection at camps and children's institutions also comprised part of the activities of the department.

Community work especially affecting children included home visiting in pre-natal and post-natal care 784; in infant welfare 4,191; in care of children of pre-school age 2,090; in care of school children 9,163; Mothers' Allowance Families 127; also social service work, etc., and in this connection close co-operation is maintained with all welfare agencies.

During the year 1925 an additional Child Welfare station was opened, making the total number now operating 16. Work at these stations included 703 Health Conferences with an attendance of 7,738, and the number of First Aid treatments given 358.

Through the interest and assistance of various organizations, such as Women's Institutes, Agricultural Societies, Boys' and Girls' Clubs, Women's Branch of the Manitoba Grain Growers' Association, United Farm Women of Manitoba, and others, successful Child Health Conferences were held at twenty-four different places during the year, the number of children examined 1,481, and of this number there were 932 with defects. 337 defects required immediate medical or surgical treatment. The report states:

"It is gratifying to note that the Child Health Conferences are becoming generally acknowledged as a most important advance in present day preventive medicine. To the mothers in rural parts of the province, where medical services cannot be easily obtained, the yearly examination affords a means of knowing the comparative state of physical excellence of their children and teaches the importance of early recognition and treatment of defects. This service is of inestimable value, first—to the pre-school child in that its defects may be recognized and corrected before starting school and thereby becoming more receptive to the teaching given; and secondly—

to the community whereby the economic loss of repeated grades may be greatly lessened."

The Nursing Department also carried on the work of supervision of maternity homes, 52 visits; boarding homes for children, 619 visits; day nurseries, 4 visits; visits of co-operation, 121; total 796.

In connection with the annual exhibit in the Health Building at the Brandon Exhibition, a clinic for crippled children was held under the auspices of the Shriners' Hospital to arouse the interest of the public in this phase of child welfare work. A nursery for mothers and team demonstrations in "Care of the Baby" were conducted as in previous years.

The crowning feature of the work in the Exhibit was the Health Fortune Teller (Princess Whatshername of Whereisit), a public health nurse, garbed in an Eastern robe of white and adorned with a golden crown with the mystical signs of beets, carrots and other health building foods.

The services of Princess, as a Health Seeress, were in great demand, which afforded a valuable means for giving Health information.

About three thousand children and adults were weighed and those who desired to see the Princess, waited in turn for consultation.

Those found overweight, underweight, and others requiring special diets were referred to the booths conducted by the Nutritional Department of the Agricultural College.

The department continues to receive a large number of requests for the Manitoba Baby Book and Pre-Natal Supplement, over 8,000 copies having been sent out.

A new development in the Department was the appointment, in November, of a nurse for tuberculosis follow-up work, her duties to include tuberculosis nursing in districts where there are no permanent public health nurses; social service nurse for Ninette Sanatorium; clinical nurse at Chest Clinics, outside of Winnipeg and Ninette Sanatorium.

This year, a further step is contemplated in the appointment of a nurse in the field to do definite work among the Mennonites for trachoma.

WINNIPEG

The Children's Aid Society

Elsewhere in this issue we publish the intensely interesting experiment in process in the formation of a Children's Bureau in Winnipeg. It is gratifying to be able to include in the same number of the News the annual report of the Children's Aid of Winnipeg, whose energetic secretary, Mr. W. A. Weston, has also been entrusted with the Children's Bureau experiment.

The amazing thing about the well-administrated Children's Aid Societies in Canada is the tremendous amount of work accomplished annually with the removal of comparatively few children permanently from their homes, with a vast amount of placing-out in private families, and with a remarkably low expenditure of public funds. (Over 85 per cent of the Winnipeg work is financed voluntarily.) Winnipeg is one of the Societies ranking high in all these characteristics. During the last year of its operation, its cases included 2420 children and 1209 delinquent and negligent parents. Of this large total, no less than 86 1-3 per cent were satisfactorily adjusted without the removal of the children from their parents. Of the remaining 13 2-3 per cent, who had to be removed while the cases were

pending, roughly two-thirds were settled by conferences, arrangements, etc., with other organizations or agencies and in only one-third of this group, or roughly four to five per cent of the total, was it necessary to take court action against the parents. And only about two-thirds of these were ultimately made wards of the Society. This would seem to illustrate the family work wing of the Society as functioning in a very efficient way. Of 360 children in the direct care of the Society at the beginning and throughout the year covered by the report only 54 were in the Shelter, many of these being cases of temporary care.

Valuable commentary on the contributing factors in this field of work is included in Mr. Weston's admirable report. As in the other provinces, there is the continually recurring problem of the feeble-minded child, and the heavy relation of cases coming to the society to the problem of the unmarried mother and her child. The Winnipeg report contains some interesting and valuable statistics on the nationalities of the cases handled and the causes creating the problems. Not least valuable is the analysis of the applications for children received and the reasons for rejection. It would appear that only about 25 per cent of the applications are accepted. It would be interesting if such an experiment could be arranged to learn how many of the 17,000 requests for immigrant children received by the Emigrating Agencies in a year would be passed by the Children's Aid Societies of Winnipeg, Toronto, etc., and likewise to ascertain how many of the applications received by the Children's Aid would be accepted by the Agencies.

The West has its social problems as has the East. It is not hampered to as great a degree, probably, in having to remove social prejudice and debris before it can construct on fundamental facts. But in the western provinces there is developing a large body of social law and practice which might well receive a greater measure of attention and study from the social students and workers of the East. And in this development no province is contributing to a greater degree than Manitoba. We only hope that we shall be able to keep closely in touch with the significant piece of work now "sheltering" under the effective wing of the Winnipeg Children's Aid.

NEW BRUNSWICK.

Further extension of the public health nursing service is reported from New Brunswick in the placement of two new nurses, one in Riley Brook, Victoria County, a rural district covering some twenty-six miles; and the other in the town of Campbellton. They will also carry on the child welfare work in connection with their other duties.

In the City of St. John, two Board of Health nurses assume the child welfare work on May 1st, specializing in nothing but infant welfare, in an effort to reduce the infant mortality.

Realizing the great need for maternity hospital facilities, the Women's Hospital Aid of the General Public Hospital at St. John is starting a campaign to establish a maternity wing in connection with the hospital.

* Child welfare workers will regret to learn that the Act for the Protection of Children of Unmarried Parents passed only last year is to be entirely repealed, and the new act, which is proposed, reverts to "The Act with respect to Illegitimate Children," a title which, it was hoped, had become obsolete.

Chief among the changes is the appointment of the overseers of the poor of the different counties, as the officials who must lay the charge against the putative father in case the child becomes a public charge. In this connection, the putative father can rid himself of further responsibility by the payment of a lump sum of not less than \$300 and not exceeding \$600.

The section of the Act dealing with the case for the mother and child is also quite different from that of the Act of 1925, in that the mother, her parents, or any one who has made financial outlay for the care of the child may bring action against the putative father as for debt, making it necessary for the people bringing the case to employ legal advice, thus leaving the mother with no other course to follow, while in the 1925 Act she had the privilege of appealing to the provincial officer, who acted on her behalf. When the case is brought up by the mother, the Judge may compel the putative father to pay a weekly sum not exceeding \$3.00 until the child is 14 years of age.

The Saint John members of the New Brunswick Social Service Council are protesting against the repeal of the 1925 Act.

The reasons alleged for the present course of action are that there never was any "machinery" to carry out the Act of 1925, and it is thought that the proposed act is operable without any further expense or appointment of new provincial officers.

At the same time, it is considered that in the new act the case of the mother and the child is given second consideration.

NOVA SCOTIA

Important changes were made in the Children's Protection Act during the last session of the Legislature. The office of Superintendent of Neglected and Delinquent Children has been abolished and a Department of Child Welfare established, with the executive officer to be known as Director of Child Welfare.

An Act respecting Immigrant Children was passed. This Act follows pretty closely the Alberta Act, but differs in some respects. The child welfare agencies were unanimous in supporting the measure, although it was strongly opposed by one or two of the Old Country child-placing agencies. The Act places the supervision of immigrant children under the Director of Child Welfare so far as the Provincial Legislature has authority to do so.

The Thirteenth Annual Report of the Superintendent of Neglected and Delinquent Children for the Province contains much interesting information and is perhaps the fullest and most complete report published by any similar department in Canada. It gives very full information regarding the Children's Aid Societies, and especially institutions caring for children, including reformatory institutions. If each province published a similarly full report, comparison of the work being done and the compiling of statistical information would be comparatively easy. Next year the report will be issued by the Director of Child Welfare.

Mr. E. H. Blois, who has been the Superintendent of Neglected and Delinquent Children since the Office was established in 1912, was appointed Judge of the Juvenile Court for the City of Halifax in December, 1925, succeeding J. J. Hunt, K.C., D.C.L., who died 30th September, 1925. Judge Blois has been closely associated with the Juvenile Court since its establish-

ment in Halifax and should find no difficulty in carrying on the work of his new office. Judge Blois also retains for the present the office of Director of Child Welfare for the Province.

St. Patrick's Home, a reformatory institution for boys of the Catholic faith, is to be re-established and a new building erected. The plans are now being prepared and the new building, which is to be modern in all respects, will be situated a short distance from the City of Halifax on land which the Home recently purchased. The public is gratified to learn that the Christian Brothers have decided to remain and conduct the Home, under the direction of the new board of management. It was feared for a time that the Brothers would be recalled and there was considerable anxiety as to the future of this institution. Brother Stanislaus, the Brother Director in charge, has in a large measure the qualifications so essential to the institution during the period of its re-establishment and the carrying out of its building program.

Mr. H. O. Eaman, the new Superintendent at the Industrial School is making good. His has been a difficult task. His school also requires new buildings on a new and more suitable location.

The new Interprovincial Home for Young Women at Moncton was opened on the first of February and a number of commitments have been made from Nova Scotia. This institution has long been needed and the indications are that the courts will not be slow to take advantage of the opportunities which the Home offers for modern reformatory training. Females over the age of sixteen years may be committed for periods varying from one to four years.

The Cape Breton Children's Aid Society has been undertaking some new work. They have been instrumental in arranging for hospital treatment for a number of crippled children in their district. They have also successfully undertaken a number of family cases. In communities where it is impossible to have more than one social agency the Children's Aid Society must of necessity do work which in larger centers would be undertaken by other organizations. In Nova Scotia the Children's Aid Societies are the only well-organized co-operative societies attempting social work in all parts of the Province; for this reason their activities are more varied than in some of the provinces.

The Children's Aid Society at Halifax, in co-operation with four child-caring institutions (two Catholic and two Protestant), has been for the past year successfully demonstrating the value of co-operation in child welfare work.

The Boy Scouts have a very strong organization in this Province. Mr. Kaulback, the Field Secretary, has been very active during the winter. He gave a well attended course of lectures and demonstrations at Pine Hill College during the winter months. Under the direction of the Scout Association there is being held in Halifax a motor show from April 17th to the 24th, the proceeds of which are for the Association's work in the Province.

The Social Service Council of Nova Scotia held their annual conference at Halifax, April 20th and 21st. In their session devoted to child welfare, addresses were delivered by Mr. N. H. Chadwick, President of the Children's Aid Society of New Glasgow, Mr. H. O. Eaman, Superintendent of the Halifax Industrial School and Rev. A. J. Prosser, Agent of the Children's Aid Society of Annapolis.

The Children's Aid Societies propose holding a conference regarding their special work the first week of June, at which the practical working of the Children's Protection Act and the problems arising therefrom will be discussed by those actively engaged in the work.

Some of the social workers are advocating a general conference on social work to be held at Halifax during the latter part of October next. If these proposals are carried out, one day of the conference at least will be devoted to child welfare. The committee is in correspondence with several outstanding authorities on child welfare for the purpose of bringing them to this conference.

The class on sociology at Dalhousie University is becoming quite popular with the students. The class formed a club, and weekly during the winter invited a person practically engaged in some form of social work to address the club. These meetings proved very interesting and instructive. Dr. Prince, who is in charge of this department at the University, is to be commended for the impetus he has given social work in the City of Halifax.

The Nova Scotia Committee for Mental Hygiene was reorganized in February, with Dr. Prince as the new President and a strong executive committee selected from the whole Province. The problem of the feeble-minded has been taken up in earnest and negotiations have been entered into with the Government looking to a survey of the Province during the coming summer. The situation regarding the care of the feeble-minded is quite encouraging.

ONTARIO

Juvenile Court, Toronto

The report for the year 1925 shows an increase in the number of children brought into Court charged with delinquency over the year 1924, there being 2,298 in 1924 and 2,529 in 1925. Of the number of children brought to Court in 1925, 1,045 were not found guilty.

In commenting upon the increase in the number of delinquents, Judge Mott states that though some, at first thought, might be disposed to view this fact as just reason for alarm, there is another factor that should enter into our consideration. If the police and social workers of a community earnestly direct their attention towards making and keeping the homes suitable and fit for the children to be in this action would naturally increase the work of a Juvenile Court, but also would be as a crutch to assist the home in its important function of rearing and caring for the child. Thus the efficiency of the police and social workers might show an increase in delinquency and also that the constructive agencies are efficiently trying to keep the homes in fit condition for the child to normally unfold.

Of the 2,529 children before the Court only 27, 21 boys and 6 girls, or 1.07 per cent, were sent to Industrial Schools.

During the year the percentage of repeaters was slightly lower than the previous year. In 1924 the repeaters were 13.53 per cent. and in 1925 they were 13.44 per cent.

\$21,015.65 was paid to mothers in small sums during the year, having been paid into Court by the fathers for the support of children. Restitution for damage done by children to the amount of \$1,402.54 was made by parents. In addition fines and fees paid by parents amounted to \$2,527.05 making in all \$24,945.24. Orders made against fathers of illegitimate children

amounting to \$12,567.59 brings the total up to \$37,512.83, being nearly \$10,000 over the Court budget for the year 1925.

In addition to 2,529 children and 550 adults brought to Court officially, there were 1,540 cases touching 3,288 persons who came voluntarily to have their problems adjusted, advice given and help by means of clinic or probation.

Neglected children brought to Court during 1925 were 158, and the number adopted under the Adoption Act totalled 219, 104 boys and 115 girls. Also there were 135 individuals dealt with under the Children of Unmarried Parents Act, making the total number of individuals dealt with by the Court 6,879.

In November 1924, the Canadian National Committee on Mental Hygiene supplied a social worker, Miss Daly, who did a year's experimental work with the Court. In commenting on the result, the report of the Psychiatric Department states:—

“Miss Daly's work demonstrated positively the practical value of thorough and detailed investigation in reaching an understanding of the problem and of very close and frequent contact in carrying out treatment. The cases she handled were chosen because of their difficulty, or the apparent hopelessness of trying to deal with them through the usual channels. The results in individual cases were surprisingly good.

In summing up her results, Miss Daly found that parental management seemed the most important influence in causing conduct disorders and behaviour problems. Over-emotional parents, over-severe parents, and the step-mother situations were factors in some cases. Mutually fond parents excluding the child from their affection was the sole cause in one case. Unwise discussion of good and bad qualities in their presence was a common fault.

The adjustment of the child to school life was another important influence. The desirability of frequent contacts is shown in the case of one mental defective, where positive constructive treatment was impossible, but where there was considerable improvement through frequent friendly visits and nothing else.”

It is also pointed out this experiment is interesting in showing how a thorough understanding and intensive work can bring about a genuine improvement even in most difficult cases.

Big Brother Movement, Toronto.

New Cases for Month (1926)	January	February	March	April
From Court	8	10	9	7
From Sources	34	35	49	29
Occurrences: Brief Contacts Made and Adjusted	29	20	32	40
Total New Boys for Month	71	65	90	76
Positions Found	16	23	18	21
Clinics Arranged	9	11	21	11
Re-established and Closed Cases	98	83	75	94

LONDON

Child Welfare Association.

In the report of the London Child Welfare Association for the year 1925, the excellent work it is doing in the community is shown in the great decrease in the infant mortality rate in London during the past five years. The association was organized in 1918, and the infant mortality rate for the previous year (1917) was 134 for 1,000 live births; for 1919 it fell to 116.7 for 1,000 live births; and for 1925 it had been reduced to 64.3 per 1,000 live births.

During 1925 the Association nurses, of whom there are four on the staff, made 6,733 visits, held 373 clinics, with a total attendance of 6,353, and had 1,400 children under supervision. All of these figures show an increase over previous years.

Miss Smith, the supervising nurse, and her staff are to be congratulated on the success of their work, and it is to be noted that by impressing the whole community with the value of public health teaching and encouraging the practice of these principles the Association hopes to reduce the infant mortality rate by a very appreciable extent.

Children's Aid Branch of the Province of Ontario. (Summary of Statistical Report.)

The Children's Aid Department is operated under the Provincial Secretary's administration. Since the Children's Protection Act was passed in 1893, there have been 25,748 children made wards of the various branches of the Children's Aid Society throughout the Province. Of these 977 were committed during the year ending 31st October, 1925. As the wards become of age, marry or are legally adopted, they are released from supervision and 967 were taken off the records during the year. The Government contributes fifty-two thousand dollars to Children's Aid work, in addition to entirely maintaining the Head Office at Toronto.

Under this Department there are sixty Children's Aid Societies with fifty-six local Superintendents and forty-two Shelters, which have an average population of 560 of whom 165 children are now ready for foster homes. These Societies deal with and seek to adjust troubles relating to family life and their aim is to avoid breaking up the home and to keep the children with their natural parents as far as possible. Through their agency 324 foster homes were found and 212 children were returned to their relatives or guardians.

Industrial Schools.

These schools are for training delinquent children. There are four, two are Protestant and two for Roman Catholic boys and girls.

Legal Adoptions.

The documents for all children in Ontario who are legally adopted pass through this office before their final presentation to the Judge. During the year 304 wards were legally adopted and 663 legal adoptions were granted.

Children of Unmarried Parents.

Under this Act the law requires investigation of all cases of children born out of wedlock; that action be taken to establish paternity and that, where possible, money be collected from the putative father under an Agreement approved by the Provincial Officer. There were 1,347 cases

investigated during the year and 143 of these children were made wards. Through the work of the Inspectors 240 financial Agreements were obtained under which \$86,105 was collected for the support of the infants.

J. J. KELSO,

Superintendent and Provincial Officer.

Luncheons supplied and sold at cost to school children is quite legitimate, but not free meals. It is the responsibility of parents to provide food and not a duty devolving upon the School Board. If the latter accepts the task then the whole principle of social economy breaks down. Once make a beginning—where is the logical end? Constantly increasing demand for meals and soon a call for shoes and other articles of clothing and the steady growth of a pauperistic spirit. Industrious working people supporting the lazy; honest people paying for the dishonest; faithful, thrifty citizens providing for worthless idlers. The only correct method, Mr. Kelso thinks, is that respectable parents, who are poor through no fault of their own, should be assisted directly by the municipality so that they can give their children food. Where the neglect is deliberate then they should forfeit their right to the guardianship of children. Any philanthropic movement that lessens the sense of parental responsibility and destroys self-respect is disastrous to the state and a direct crime against the individual.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

Health—The Red Cross Society.

The Division now has been conducting its peace-time public health nursing work for five years, previous to which no service of this type had ever been attempted in the Island Province. To gain the sympathetic understanding of the people was uphill work, but now that there has been a health inspection in every school results are being seen not only in the feeling among the people for the need of the work, but in the correction of defects and in the general improvement of the health habits of the children. Greater co-operation on the part of the parents with regard to better feeding and care of infants and small children following the nurses' advice is being demonstrated. The attitude of the government to the work reflects the attitude of the people, as the grant given for the past two years was this year doubled, to help in substantially enlarging the work in conjunction with a programme outlined and financed by the Canadian Tuberculosis Association.

During the winter months the nurses confine their work to Charlottetown and Summerside and have held inspections in seven schools. Physicians examined 615 children, which were first examinations or for some special reason, the nurses examined 1,808 children, making a total of 2,423 children examined. Health talks were given in 75 classrooms. A great number of defects have been remedied since the inspection of these schools a year ago.

Other activities during the winter have been 598 home health visits made to school children, pre-school children, infants, pre-natal and general cases; four Red Cross Home Nursing Classes have been conducted with 57 women enrolled, 50 of whom attended 75 per cent of the lessons. A course of 12 lectures on health topics was given to a group of 175 teachers-

in-training, and 10 lessons in First-Aid given to two C. G. I. T. groups. The number of school children, infants, parents and college students who have visited the Charlottetown Health Centre has been 1,834 in the past five months.

Requests have been received for the pre-natal letters issued by the Canadian Council on Child Welfare and distributed by the Divisional Red Cross, also acknowledgment of the amount of valuable information contained in them.

QUEBEC

Montreal

Within the past year, the Ladies Benevolent Society, an institution for dependent children, has returned twenty-seven children to parents and relatives. The average stay of these children in the institution was five years, and their discharge has been the result of intensive case work with their families.

Montreal's first Boys' Week, May 1st to May 8th, is sponsored by the Rotary Club of Montreal with the co-operation of Kiwanis, Lions, Kinsmen Clubs, Y. M. C. A., Knights of Columbus, Y. M. H. A., Boy Scouts Association, Parks and Playgrounds Association, and Settlements, and is for the benefit of all churches, schools and spare time organizations working for and with boys. The programme is NOT to exploit boys, give him a week's holiday or to raise funds. The object is to interest the public in boys and to interest boys in themselves. The Programme will include Boys' Day in Churches, Boys' Day in Schools, Boys' Evening at Home, Boys' Day in Citizenship, Boys' Day in Athletics, Boys' Day in Industry, and Boys' Day in Parade. Mr. V. F. McAdam, Secretary of the Boys' Home, is Chairman of the Committee in charge of Boys' Week.

The Montreal Parks and Playgrounds Association.

The policy of the Montreal Parks and Playgrounds Association is to demonstrate the value of an all-year-round programme of supervised recreation in a limited number of summer play centres, community skating centres, and evening recreation classes in the gymnasias of the public school.

The aim is not to provide a city-wide programme of Community Recreation but in co-operation with the City Recreation and Parks Departments and other agencies to urge the maintenance of play and park spaces now available to secure more space if possible and to develop and extend facilities for community recreation by demonstration, propaganda, publicity and practical help where possible in order to adequately serve the needs of a rapidly growing population.

Owing to favourable climatic conditions, the Association experienced an exceptionally good season in the skating centres. A good attendance also was maintained at the classes in the gymnasias of seven Protestant schools.

In co-operation with the "Y's" Men's Club of Verdun and the Y. M. C. A. Recreation Committee of Cote St. Paul, five skating carnivals were held and the proceeds were used for rink maintenance. In commenting on the close co-operation existing among these and other organizations, the Secretary Supervisor states that this has been the means of spreading a realization of the need for community recreation. A definite result has been an active interest in the winter recreation programme of the Parks and

Playgrounds Association, and the Association was able to promote a maximum program of activities at minimum cost to itself.

Other activities included skating races and hockey, 125 hockey teams having used the rinks in the three districts. Boys' classes were held in the gymnasiums of five Protestant schools, and in four schools girls' classes were conducted by a physical education student. In this connection it is mentioned that a very definite need exists for recreation classes for working girls in the city of Montreal, and this need can be met with the right leadership and an attractive programme. It is urged that some provision should be made on a large scale to organize this type of work for the great numbers of teen-age girls working in factories and offices.

In May, 1926, the **Family Welfare Association of Montreal** reached its twenty-fifth year of service in "rehabilitating or influencing others to rehabilitate families and individuals who are or who are liable to become dependent," and in "undertaking or influencing others to undertake the removal of any preventable cause of misery and dependency revealed by its work with families."

In that time 20,435 families, or approximately 102,000 individuals were dealt with. Of these, 8,678 families have been dealt with since the Association reorganized its work in 1916, and only 951 were re-applications prior to that year.

The report for the year 1925 shows a total of 1346 families, comprising 5406 individuals, under the care of the Association, at a total cost of \$109,790, for relief and service.

Of the 5406 individuals, 2617 were children under 14 years of age, 625 were children over 14 years of age, and 2164 were adults.

58 per cent. of these families were found to be in need of material aid as well as service, while 42 per cent required service only.

In commenting on the causes which urge clients to seek help, the secretary states:

"Not many had definite purposes or plans when they came to our office seeking advice and help. Stricken by sickness, or old age, widowed or deserted, their husbands imprisoned or out of the city, looking for work, they were either dazed or resentful of the bludgeonings of fate. They were usually fearful that the facts in their situation might become known and affect their social standing. This applied to the very poor as well as to those in temporary difficulty. In many, self-consciousness had become an obsession. To find that they have an "inferiority complex" may help, but it does not "touch the personal mystery that lies back of every thought and act of our lives."

Although "relief" cost more in 1925 than in the previous year, the report points out that bigger demands were made by the Health Agencies upon the Association's funds, contending that their preventive work would not be productive of results unless the families they deal with eat plenty of nourishing food, wear warm clothing, and open their windows, which means additional fuel in winter. For example, tubercular men who have been "carrying on somehow" consented to undergo sanatorium care, provided their families did not starve in the meantime, and while in 1924 sickness of the breadwinner was responsible for 44.6 per cent of the total relief given, in 1925 the percentage rose to 62 per cent.

Another increase in relief expenditure is accounted for by the elimination of duplication with other agencies in the Montreal Federation of Social Agencies. The Association supplies relief in cases of Desertion and Imprisonment at the request of the Society for the Protection of Women and Children and the Prisoners' Welfare Association.

Then too, smaller relief societies have had to turn over their long-term families to the Association, being unable to give the money or services that their clients require.

Relief under "Widowhood" accounted for 20 per cent. of the total amount, 350 children having been kept in their own homes, at a cost of \$21,650.

The work of the Association's Labour Bureau has been most successful; 6139 temporary and 175 permanent positions were secured. In addition, the children of the widows thus obtaining employment are not left to themselves and to the street in the early part of the evenings because of the mothers' being away at store or office cleaning. They have the opportunity to be with their mothers after school hours, to go with her to playground or park in the evenings, and on Saturdays, (for no work is given out on that day to those who have little children at home). It is contended that with the father gone, the mother should have more opportunity to be with her children, rather than less.

The report also gives statistics and further details on other activities of the Association, all of which testify to the high standard of social service work being carried on. The record of twenty-five years of service reflects great credit on the Association.

Child Welfare Association.

Dr. Chandler has made arrangements with the Anti-Tuberculosis and General Health League to supply Diphtheria Toxide for use in Health Centres of the Child Welfare Association. Every effort will be made to have children from one to six years immunized.

Under the direction of Dr. Chandler, the Medical and Nursing Staff of the Association have formed a Child Study Group. This group meets one evening a week to study the various problems of Child Care and will be of great assistance to the Association staff in their classes for mothers. Other groups are contemplated for the Fall. (The News Letter of the Montreal Council of Social Agencies, March 1926.)

Anti-Tuberculosis and General Health League.

An attractive book-plate with twelve Health Rules is being distributed by the League to every school child in Montreal.

Another new activity of the League is a Health Speakers' Service, which will function after September 1, 1926, and the preliminary programmes have been sent out in order to make it known to organizations, who may wish to make use of this service, in planning their work for the next year.

Single talks or a series may be arranged, and the material will be adapted to the age, sex and size of the group. Also special lectures on any health subject will be arranged on request.

The following subjects are suggested:

For Girls: 1. Health of the Adolescent Girl. 2. Adolescence: What it stands for. 3. Responsibility of Life. 4. Personal Hygiene. 5. Facts of Life.

For Boys: 1. How to Keep Fit. 2. Facts of Life. 3. Personal Hygiene.

For Adults: 1. Women's Work in the World. 2. How to Live. 3. Health and Efficiency. 4. Montreal's Health Problems. 5. The Tuberculosis Problem. 6. Behaviour Problems in Children.

Special Course: "Health in the Home", comprising ten lectures and demonstrations; including home nursing.

This list will be added to and revised as necessary, and adults, as groups or individuals, are asked to assist by arranging for groups of boys and girls.

These Health Talks are free.

We gratefully acknowledge the following comments from the **Girls' Cottage Industrial School, Sweetsburg, Quebec**:—

"Only two provinces out of the Dominion availed themselves of the amendment to the Federal Criminal Code in 1921, giving each Province the right to raise the age limit of the Juvenile Court from sixteen to eighteen years. The Girls' Cottage Industrial School is greatly affected by the prevailing laws in the Province of Quebec in this particular. Now a girl of sixteen taken in a raid is treated as an adult criminal, and fined for the offence. In the first place a fine is not a suitable form of correction to make a girl mend her ways, and in the second place, a child of fifteen will more often than otherwise pass herself off as sixteen to escape coming before the Juvenile Court, which she could not do were the age limit eighteen. The importance in a girl's life of those adolescent years from sixteen to eighteen should be borne in mind. Then habits are formed and lasting impressions are made. Surely contact with the Juvenile Court is less injurious to a girl entering womanhood than contact with hardened criminals who may exert far-reaching and ruinous influence upon her morals. We have seen cases beyond our reach and have had to stand by powerless to act, leaving a task only half done.

"Our province has no institution for the mental subnormal, and for this reason our school takes in this type, as well as the delinquent. We have now a splendid new cottage added to our institution which will aid our work beyond measure. However our work is seriously hindered, and hampered by having to take the two types. This is a matter about which we can do nothing, but we hope that the government will soon see fit to establish an institution which will fill this very glaring lack."

SASKATCHEWAN

The Eighth Annual Report of the Juvenile Court, Regina and Provincial Points, 1925. (Summarized.)

In her report for the year, Judge Ethel MacLachlan points out a slight decrease in delinquent cases in the city of Regina, and a marked decrease in provincial cases.

The total alleged delinquent from all points was 261, alleged neglected 16, making 277 in all. Of these 235 were found guilty, and 15 neglected.

Judge MacLachlan questions the oft-repeated assertion that juvenile delinquency is on the increase since in Regina there are probably between six and eight thousand children of juvenile delinquency age (7 to 16 years), and in 1925 there were only 97 actual convictions in court.

As in previous years, theft holds first place in the list of offences, comprising 56.3 per cent of the total.

Only 17 delinquents out of the total 261 were sent to or recommended for the Industrial School. Of the 16 alleged neglected, 13 were made wards of the Commissioner of Child Protection for foster homes.

Adult cases appearing in court for contributing to delinquency and cruelty numbered 14, and in commenting on the causes for delinquent children, Judge MacLachlan states: "There are more delinquent parents than delinquent children. Possibly there are not so many parents who deliberately neglect their children, but who, nevertheless, are so indifferent and careless that they are absolutely blind to the causes which are bringing their children into the courts all over Canada, the cause being mostly themselves.As I have repeatedly stated probably about two-thirds of the children come into the court through causes over which they themselves have little or no control."

222 children out of the total 277 were born in Canada, but only 50 could claim Canadian-born parents.

Fines, as a rule, are not used to any great extent for juveniles, but restitution is made whenever possible for the goods stolen, the parents, with but one or two exceptions, realizing this as a moral right.

During 1925 there were no appeals, and in eight years, out of 2,355 cases before the court, only four were appealed.

The mileage travelled in 1925 for the purpose of hearing provincial cases was 15,953 miles.

In speaking of the result of the Juvenile Court work, Judge MacLachlan states: "No court is a "Cure-All." The court only tries to supplement the home which through one reason or another has apparently failed. To some, no doubt, we have appeared too lenient, while to others, too severe. Our encouragements far outweigh our discouragements, especially when we consider that about 85 per cent of the offenders took advantage of their first chance to make good and never returned to the court for further or other action. Through letters received and verbal conversations, we know the court's action happily helped many young persons."

Bureau of Child Protection.

Statistics of the Bureau of Child Protection for 1925.

I. Children's Protection Act:—

Under supervision, Dec. 31, 1924	2,056
Committed and Surrendered in 1925	157

2,213

Deductions: Married, deceased, attained majority, adopted	185
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Under supervision, Dec. 31, 1925	2,028
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Placed as Follows:

In foster homes or returned to parents under supervision	1,909
In shelters or orphanages	57
In correctional institutions	25

2,028

II. Adoption of Children's Act:—

Court Orders issued to December 31, 1924	180
Court Orders in 1925	104
Total to December 31, 1925	284
Wards of the Bureau and Children's Aid Societies adopted in 1925	66
Not wards of Bureau or Children's Aid	38

III. Juvenile Courts Act:—

Authorizations given and cases heard by local justices	78
Authorizations given and cases heard by Miss MacLachlan in rural districts	168
Cases heard in Regina by Judge MacLachlan	109

IV. Blind and Deaf:—

Blind in attendance at Brantford (17), and Montreal (3), 1924-25	20
Deaf in attendance at Winnipeg (45), and Montreal (2), 1924-25	47

V. Mothers' Allowance Act:—

New applications for allowances received 1925.....	564
New applications for allowances allowed	365
Allowances on pay-roll from preceding years, 1918-24	925
Total	1,290
Cancellations in 1925 for preceding years	159
Cancellations for 1925	58
In force Dec. 31, 1925	1,073
Total paid in 1925 calendar year	\$293,495.00
Average per family per month	\$22.80
Children under sixteen years of age represented in families	3,755
Widows receiving allowances at Dec. 31, 1925	863
Women, whose husbands are incapacitated	161
Cases where orphans are being taken care of by widows or unmarried women	12
Cases where the husband or father is imprisoned	37

1,073

SYMPATHY

By the death of Mrs. W. H. Lovering which took place at her residence in Hamilton at an early hour on the morning of Saturday, March 27th, the Canadian Council on Child Welfare has suffered a severe loss. Those of us who attended the Conference, last September, will recall her as a most interested member, an untiring worker and a generous supporter. Her zeal for all activities concerning the betterment of conditions for children was the dominant note in her devoted life.

Mrs. Lovering's interests were many and varied. She served on the Executive of the Central Bureau of Social Agencies; a member of the Big Sisters' Association; convener of a committee of the Local Council of Women; an active member of the Children's Aid Society; chairman of the National Aid Committee; President of the Secours National, Hamilton branch, with which her name will ever be linked. It was perhaps as one of the founders and organizers of the Catholic Women's League that Mrs. Lovering was best known. A loyal daughter of the Roman Catholic Church, she identified herself with every department of Church work in a broad-spirited and tolerant manner. Twice she received public recognition as an outstanding Roman Catholic woman. A highly prized Pontifical decoration, the Cross "Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice," was conferred upon her at the hands of His Excellency, the Apostolic Delegate. The medal "Benemerenti", granted to those only who have rendered conspicuous service to the work of Religion, was given to her by the reigning Pontiff. In recognition of services on behalf of French Soldiers and Orphans, France, on the occasion of the visit of Marechal Fayolle to Hamilton, bestowed on her the Medaille de la Reconnaissance Francaise.

Mrs. Lovering was born in New York, coming to Canada at an early age, and receiving her education at Loretto Abbey. In October 1896 she married W. H. Lovering, who survives her and to whom the deepest sympathy of the Council goes out. The Council has lost a valued worker, the Community has lost a good friend and Canada has lost a good citizen.

With Our National Members

The Canadian Metropolitan Life and Child Welfare

The immunization against diphtheria, of the children of the Company's employees in Montreal, proved so successful as a demonstration to the whole city, that the free offer was extended to the entire staff throughout Canada. A moving picture film has been prepared for use in anti-diphtheretic campaigns.

New publications of the Company include a pamphlet entitled "Feeding Your Baby" which deals with diet for the child during the first six years.

For the first four months of 1926 the Metropolitan Nursing Service made 43,501 maternity visits, 31,301 newborn baby visits and 1,674 welfare visits.

THE CANADIAN GIRL GUIDES

The first residential conference for diploma'd Guiders to be held in Canada took place in Toronto, January 8th to 10th, and was held at Bishop Strachan's School through the kindness of Miss Walsh.

Training was carried on under the direction of Canada's two Red Cord Diploma'd Guiders, and twenty-three Guiders were in attendance.

A forward step for Manitoba Guides is the entering of choirs from the various companies in the Manitoba Musical Competition, an organization whose aim is to increase artistic development in the community.

District training classes and divisional competitions have been held as usual.

A Divisional Training Class was held at Ottawa from April 7th to 10th, under the direction of Miss Head, Toronto. About thirty Guiders took the classes, including several from Almonte, Pembroke and Hull, Quebec.

The first year of the "Guiding" activities of Quebec, under a Provincial Commissioner, has been one of encouragement in spite of difficulties. The Montreal Division, true to the Guide promise, has proved of great help by holding training classes, some of the courses extending over several weeks, and others of two or three days only, intensive training which they kindly throw open to Guiders from country companies.

Other activities have been the Divisional Officers' Council and the Camp Training Class.

Mrs. Duggan, the Provincial Commissioner, who is abroad, hopes to bring from France information on Guiding so that the French Canadian Guides may have the benefit of reading books about Guiding in their own language.

At the Annual Meeting of the Canadian Council held in Toronto, April 29th, the speaker of the open meeting was Dame Katherine Furse, G. B. E., Assistant Commissioner, Imperial Council, G. G. A.

CHILD WELFARE AND THE VICTORIAN ORDER.

Recently Organized Child Welfare Work Reported From Various Victorian Order Centres in Canada.

British Columbia:

Burnaby: The Victorian Order nurse at Burnaby has organized Home Nursing classes with the North-East Burnaby Women's Institutes. At two of the classes the medical officer of health co-operated by giving instruction in care of communicable diseases and first aid.

Ontario:

Brampton: Miss Mary Smith, recently appointed to Brampton, Ontario, reports the commencement of mothercraft and hygiene classes to a group of sixteen girls organized as Canadian Girls in Training in connection with Grace Methodist Church.

Cornwall: Miss Dorothy James, Victorian Order nurse in Cornwall, assisted at a survey of the teeth of the school children by Dr. Coburg, of the Provincial Department of Health, Toronto; lectures were given and moving pictures on the care of the teeth shown to children and the parents. A great interest was taken in this demonstration, and splendid results are reported.

New Liskeard: Miss Gladys Risk, of New Liskeard, became a member of the Local Women's Institute, and after she gave an address on Victorian Order Work, the Institute rented and furnished a room to be used as a clinic and office for the Victorian Order nurse.

North Bay: As a result of an address, "Contents of Bag Carried by Victorian Order Nurses," by Miss Riordan to the Canadian Girls in Training of the Presbyterian Church, North Bay, the girls are making and donating the linen supplies for one bag, following the outline for same given in the Victorian Order Nursing Manual.

Ottawa: The little girls of the Victorian Order Mothercraft class at Eastview gave public demonstrations of their work in a shop window during the recent Ottawa campaign for funds.

Pembroke: Miss Hettie Crowe, the Victorian Order nurse at Pembroke, is giving instruction to three entrance classes of the Pembroke Public Schools on Home Nursing.

Quebec:

Sherbrooke: Miss Sutcliffe, Victorian Order nurse, reports a splendid attendance at the weekly well baby clinic, recently organized and that three mothercraft classes were given at the Lawrence School in February.

New Brunswick:

Sackville: A school dental clinic has recently been organized at Sackville with the Victorian Order nurse in attendance. Three hours each week are given by the local dentists, with an average of twelve children treated.

Nova Scotia:

Halifax: The Victorian Order nurses of Halifax are conducting Home Nursing Classes in connection with the Nova Scotia Technical College.

Pictou: The Victorian Order nurse at Pictou has added to the interest of her nutrition classes by the singing of health songs, copies of the songs being left with the teachers of the classes. The Victorian Order Committee is also helping the work at the clinic by serving tea to the mothers.

Truro: A Mothercraft and Home Nursing Class has been organized in Truro by Miss Annie Proudfoot with an attendance of sixteen, being the senior members of the Canadian Girls in Training Club.

CHILD WELFARE AND THE CANADIAN SOCIAL HYGIENE COUNCIL.

Provincial Conference of Hygienists.

That the Canadian Social Hygiene Council by its educational health work throughout the Dominion was saving provincial departments of health thousands of dollars annually was a statement made by Dr. J. W. Hunt, Chief of the Communicable Diseases Section of the Ontario Health Department in an address delivered to an Ontario Social Hygiene Conference held in Hygeia House, Toronto recently.

"Free Clinics for the free treatment of Venereal Diseases are very well," said Dr. Hunt, "but much more is required. People must be educated in their use. Today the masses of people in Ontario and to a certain degree, throughout Canada, are getting needed and definite information, and it is common knowledge among health officers that wherever a social hygiene Exhibit and demonstration takes place the work of the Clinics is thereafter most beneficially extended. The staff of the Canadian Social Hygiene Council with its efficient committees, with the abundance of material now in their hands, their Division of Education and panel of speakers, and their various means of gathering large audiences, and of distributing literature is an invaluable adjunct to our health work in the province of Ontario."

Dr. Hunt reported that there are in Ontario, seventeen free government Venereal Disease Clinics of which six are in Toronto, that in these 8,000 patients were treated last year, and 118,000 treatments given. Of the 8,000 patients, **551 were children** to whom 7,000 treatments were given.

Of these children 350 were victims of congenital syphilis.

The Ontario Conference was called for the purpose of arriving at well conducted plans for the conduct of provincial work among the twenty-one Ontario Councils and at a basis upon which other Provincial Councils might proceed as they are later organized.

Others speakers included, Dr. Gordon Bates, General Secretary of the Canadian Council, Dr. D. V. Currey, Medical Health Officer, St. Catharines, Dr. R. M. Boyd, Medical Health Officer, Fort William, Dr. J. H. Radford, Medical Health Officer, Galt., Dr. W. H. Sutton, Medical Health Officer, Peterboro, Miss E. Hewson, Ontario Secretary, Dr. Charles Fenwick, of the Toronto Council, and Mr. A. D. Hardie of the Division of Education of the National Body.

A matter of national interest reported on by Mr. Hardie concerned the issuance of a pamphlet prepared by Professor Peter Sandiford of the College of Education, Toronto, who is also Chief of the Educational Division of the Canadian Social Hygiene Council. This publication is entitled "Tell Your Children the Truth", and deals with parental responsibility. It has been a year in preparation, the subject has been approached from the angles of the biological, physiological, psychological and social student and the resulting pamphlet which is now available for distribution throughout Canada represents a real achievement along educational lines.

A broadening out policy was also discussed at this Conference and the consensus of opinion of the assembled delegates was that under the name "Health League" and with a broader platform of activities the Canadian Social Hygiene Council could do even better work in every province than it is able to do today.

The Trades and Labour Congress of Canada and Juvenile Immigration.

Under date of January 10th, 1926, the Chairman of the Council of Dr. Barnardo's Homes, London, England, in a memorandum sent to the members of the House of Commons (Canada) with reference to the decision of the Federal Immigration Department restricting the immigration of all unaccompanied boys and girls under the age of fourteen years, requested further investigation of the matter with a view to the removal of this regulation.

In this connection it is a matter of great encouragement that the Trades and Labour Congress of Canada support the attitude taken by the Canadian Council on Child Welfare on this matter, and, in commenting on the above-mentioned memorandum, state that the arguments advanced by the Barnardo's Homes do not justify any change in their attitude. It is pointed out that quite a number of children are being maintained in orphanages in Canada showing that the desire of those who actually want to provide a good home for a child can be supplied from Canadian Institutions, and further that those who are familiar with Canadian conditions, know the difficulty of giving proper protection and providing equal opportunity in regard to education, etc., for children of the class now restricted under the Immigration Regulations.

Ontario's Aid to Crippled Children

The Hon. G. Howard Ferguson, Prime Minister and Minister of Education for Ontario, has amended the regulations governing the grants in aid of auxiliary classes, to include a maximum annual grant of forty dollars

(\$40) per child per year towards the cost of transporting crippled children to special classes. This is one of the most encouraging and forward-looking developments in this field and one that will commend itself to the warm support of every agency or individual interested in the problem of the "shut-in" child.

ANNUAL REPORT—UNITED STATES CHILDREN'S BUREAU.

Miss Grace Abbott's annual report is not only a report on results accomplished but it is always one of the year's most significant commentaries on child welfare problems and their trend.

The great achievement, in the year just covered, has been the continued progress of the Shepherd-Towner legislation until 43 states are now co-operating. During the last fiscal year, in these states, 10,802 child health conferences were held with examination of 278,106 infants and children of pre-school age. Six hundred and twenty-two children's health centres have been established by the states, and 3,581 pre-natal conferences with 35,997 women in attendance. Fifty-seven permanent pre-natal centres were established. Most interesting is the establishment of midwife classes in 19 states with an attendance of 15,011, of whom 8,047 completed the course of instruction.

Mortality in Relation to Attendance at Birth.

One of the most interesting pieces of work done by the Bureau this year has been a statistical study in six counties of Tennessee, to establish the relation of the type of attendant at birth to the infant and maternal mortality rate. "Loss rates" as well as neonatal death rates were taken, as the stillbirth rate was considered as essentially related to the study. For the combined group of counties the loss rate was 77.2 per 1000 births. For cases attended by physicians the rate was 72.8; by midwives 82.2; by white midwives 51.5, and by coloured midwives 106.5. The neonatal death rate was 38.5 for this area, as compared with 39.7 for the registration area. The rate for the babies attended at birth by a physician was 34; by midwives 48.7; by white midwives 35, and by coloured midwives 60.1.

In another study, under way since 1923, postmortem examinations show that practically the same factors which cause death before birth are responsible for deaths occurring within the first few days of life.

Pre-Natal Standards

A set of standards for the use of physicians conducting infant and pre-school conferences has been drawn up by an advisory committee to the Bureau consisting of representatives from the American Pediatric Society, the pediatric section of the American Medical and the American Child Hygiene Association.

Child Management

An issue of 30,000 copies of pamphlets on Habit-Training for Children has been entirely exhausted. The Canadian Council will be able, we hope, to publish something along this line, this year.

Crippled Children

A special survey on the provisions for crippled children in eight states has just been completed.

Blind Children

A special pamphlet on play and recreation for blind children has also been issued.

Child Labour

The effort to obtain the Child Labour amendment to the Constitution continues unabated. In four more states, ratification has been passed, but in 21 other states it has been rejected. States refusing to ratify may ratify at subsequent sessions of the legislature.

Studies have also been made on Vocational Guidance in reference to printing and to the women's clothing trades. Three excellent studies on rural child labour have also been published.

Dependent Children

An excellent statistical study on what children should become wards of the state or of child-caring agencies has brought out many valuable facts. Not least interesting is the conclusion that the problem is to but a small degree one of orphanage. Of the children in the care of state boards 58 per cent were removed from homes where both parents were living. Sixty-eight per cent of those in the care of state schools, and 67 per cent of those in the care of private agencies came from similar homes. As Miss Abbott suggests this raises some doubt as to the necessity of all the removals, some of which might presumably have been avoided, by better investigation and more thorough case work during temporary care.

Indenture

Canadians will be interested in the study of this problem as the indenture system in the Western States bears many points of resemblance to the placement of immigrant children in Canada. Miss Abbott's comment is worth quotation:

"When it is remembered that only with a small percentage of these children is the problem one of poverty only and that a very large percentage of them are handicapped by a bad inheritance or bad environment or both the inadequacy and injustice of a system which is based upon the child's paying his way are apparent. Indenture is the wrong basis for the work. Its underlying idea is service by the child whereas the modern attitude toward the child who is an orphan or must be removed from his own home is service for the child. Under the indenture system many of the families who apply for children are unable adequately to support and educate their own children and take the additional child because they are unable to pay for adult help."

Juvenile Delinquency

A special census on juvenile delinquency shows that from 1910 to 1923 considerable progress has been made in keeping young children out of penal institutions. In 1910, 38.8 per cent. of all admissions of juvenile delinquents under 18 was to jails or workhouses, but in 1923 this percentage had decreased to 20.8 per cent.

Statistics

As in Canada, considerable attention has been given to the recording of uniform juvenile delinquency and child labour statistics.

The report concludes with excellent summaries of the work of State Child Welfare Commissions, and of legislation bearing on child welfare, which has been passed in the several states in the last year.

Few workers in the child welfare field can fail to find instruction and inspiration in the excellently classified and diversified sections of this report.

ALBERTA

Social Leadership from the Cabinet

Social workers have what might be called a fear, or rather an obstinate suspicion that they are "suffered gladly" by most of our public men as a wearisome crew who, if not pampered and heard, may cause inconvenient reverberations among the women voters and therefore, like the first dip in the spring, the earlier in the session they are dealt with and disposed of the better. And, sometimes, when the non-committal faces of some minister and "his colleagues" are "taking into consideration" our representations (which generally never seem to come out of consideration), it would surprise them to know that most of the "delegation" present are as cynically appraising them as they us. Be that as it may, there are, scattered here and there through the various governments, federal and provincial, like the gold-bearing vein in the quartz, far-sighted, generous-spirited public servants, open-minded to every conceivable line of activity which can be shown to be vitally related to the active life of this young country.

Such obviously is the Hon. George Hoadley, Minister of Health in Alberta, who this year has sent out, over his signature, a message surveying the health and social problems of his province, that is as instructive as his action is inspiring. Space does not permit its complete reproduction, but as indicative of its spirit we quote the following extracts:

"As a people, we are faced in the Province of Alberta with many health problems. The first obligation which we have to meet is a financial one. We provide for the maintenance and support of those incapable of taking care of themselves, before we make any provision for other needs and purposes.

We set aside \$275,000 for the maintenance of three great institutions as follows:

Training School at Red Deer.....	\$ 38,000
Mental Hospital at Ponoka.....	204,000
Mental Institute at Oliver	33,000

In addition to this, on July 1st last, there was added to our care the maintenance of the Keith Sanatorium. This will entail a further requirement of \$150,000. There is a revenue of \$125,000 from the four institutions. Part of this money is used for the maintenance and support of people who are, in the main, not dangerous to others. Others because they are mentally and physically too far below par, are taken care of in these institutions.

We have amongst us others, technically known as high or low grade morons, for whom we are doing little or nothing, who are a real danger of the coming generation. These people are mentally unbalanced to a certain degree. They are at large and are capable of reproducing their own kind.

So many theories and schemes seem to be sound, practical and workable in general. When it comes to the application of preventive principles to the individual case, we have to deal with the real difficulty.

Is this menace going to remain with us, an unchecked source, from which an increasing supply of mentally deficient and incapable citizens is to emanate? In such cases our work of preventive medicine and education is powerless. The constant drain on our physical, mental and economic

resource is incalculable. No amount of work done at pre-natal, baby or school clinics can relieve the situation under such conditions. The question still remains with us—What are we to do?

Much educational work has been accomplished. This is shown in the interest displayed by individuals, societies and organizations. Much remains to be done. We must spend at least approximately \$300,000 to maintain people, who, in the main, are not a danger to those yet unborn. These people cannot take care of themselves. They are of no economic value to the state, but are a burden that must be carried, on humanitarian grounds, if for no other reason.

We have, on the other hand, at large in our midst, people of slightly impaired mentality, who are a danger to themselves and the community.. They are found in some homes in our midst, in places where they are boarded out by their guardians, and in institutions. At times they are found carrying on trades and businesses in an apparently normal manner, propagating their kind, and paving the way with misery and tragedy for future generations. It seems to me that we must ask ourselves this question—Do we desire to foster a more sane outlook on this problem, and can we induce people to give the subject thought and study, so that we and they may have a better understanding of the situation with which we are faced? I ask you to give this subject your serious, intelligent study and sympathetic consideration.

We need all the help we can get from the public at large; from people interested in public welfare, and specially from women's organizations, whose members are in close touch with community interests and who know the conditions existing in their own districts.

It has been found that thirty to forty per cent of the deaths of children under one year of age are due to pre-natal causes. As the value of the educational practical work becomes better known, we will get our young mothers coming out and preparing themselves for the very important career of motherhood. They will thus gain knowledge and confidence which will save themselves and their children many weary hours of sickness and much indifferent health.

The travelling clinic goes to parts of the country where there is no doctor, dentist or railway; where people are living at a considerable distance from places which provide for us the comforts and amenities of life—the people who are doing the pioneering work of today.

As already stated, the people for whom the service is provided are living under pioneer conditions and are giving valuable service by developing and preparing the country for citizens of the future. For this reason even if this work cost the Province a good deal more money than it is doing now, it would be a wise, and in the long run, economical expenditure.

Nowhere has preventive health work more influence than in the home. In the daily round of cleaning, cooking, and care of the family, we have the foundation laid of national health or impaired efficiency. The wide-spread influence of the home environment is felt, not only in the home but throughout the life of the nation. It is not possible to over estimate the value of health, whether in the Home, Community, Province or Dominion.

Quite recently, I arranged with Dr. Laidlaw that the medical men in charge of our institutions should give lectures on their special subjects

to women's organizations. Some lectures have been given, and I wish to thank you for so courteously receiving these specialists, and encouraging us in the work in which we are all engaged."

When more of our public men like Mr. Hoadley perceive so clearly the inseparable relationships between social work and national progress, and so relate social and national economy, we opine that sound development and actual prosperity will be attained more steadily and rapidly than in the past.

MANITOBA

The Children's Bureau and the Children's Aid, City of Winnipeg

Without comment or much publicity, many Canadian communities and agencies are quietly working out most interesting experiments in co-operative administration of their social agencies, that in some instances, at least, if successful, may essentially affect child welfare developments in their own and probably in other communities for decades.

Such is the interesting experiment carried on in Winnipeg during the last six months and still in process. Subsequent to the audit of the social agencies of that city under Dr. E. T. Devine, it was decided following his recommendations to establish a Children's Bureau in that city. The bureau was established as suggested and, most interesting of all, was placed under the supervision of the Children's Aid Society of the City of Winnipeg with this body's secretary, Mr. W. A. Weston, assuming primary responsibility for its administration. As will be seen in Mr. Weston's report to his own society, summarized herewith, the experiment so far gives every promise of successful development.

The lines of development suggested for the child-caring institutions in the Winnipeg Federated Budget and which have been approved and adopted by these organizations are outlined as follows:

DUTIES OF BUREAU

1. To equip itself to investigate all applications from the City of Winnipeg for the care of children in any of the Institutions affiliated with the Federated Budget Board of Winnipeg.

2. Similarly, as a matter of service, to investigate all applications from Greater Winnipeg, for the care of children in any institution affiliated with the Federated Budget Board of Winnipeg.

3. To prepare a summary of each investigation and submit same with necessary recommendation to the Children's Bureau Committee for consideration and action.

4. Should the Committee recommend admission of the child or children to an institution, it will be the duty of the Bureau to supply the institution with a summary of the case and any other recommendation which may be made.

5. To arrange for the furnishing of temporary care to any emergency case pending consideration of same by the Committee.

6. To arrange in co-operation with parents, to furnish the necessary medical, dental and psychiatric work for each child pending its admission to any institution.

7. To arrange for the necessary legal services in connection with all matters that might arise, i.e., non-support, domestic trouble, divorce, separation, collection of maintenance money, desertion, cruelty, etc.

8. To utilize every available means to prevail upon parents to meet their obligations for the maintenance of their children.

9. To arrange to follow up each case with a view to ascertaining whether the parents are making an honest effort to re-establish their home at the earliest possible date, and with a view to reducing to a minimum the child's or children's stay in the institution.

10. To furnish to the Bureau Committee, data on which the discharge of children from the institutions could be recommended, when home conditions are considered satisfactory or when other suitable provision has been made for the care of the children.

11. With a view to assisting the organizations affiliated with the Bureau, to dispose of any old case on hand, the Bureau shall, upon request from any affiliated organization undertake to investigate any case so referred to them, and to submit a report to the Bureau Committee for consideration and action.

12. Each organization affiliated with the Bureau shall agree to furnish the Bureau upon request, with full information on the prescribed form, concerning any child or children in their institution coming from Greater Winnipeg.

The following are the institutions affiliated with the Federated Budget Board:

Protestant:—

Children's Home of Winnipeg,
Knowles School for Boys.

Roman Catholic:—

Benedictine Orphanage,
Providence Shelter,
St. Agnes Priory (Home of the Good Shepherd),
St. Boniface Orphanage,
St. Joseph's Orphanage,
St. Norbert Orphanage.

Jewish:—

Jewish Orphanage.

Undenominational:—

Children's Aid Society.

There shall be a Children's Bureau Committee consisting of 16 members:

Children's Home to nominate	3	
Knowles School	2	
Children's Aid Society:		
2 Protestant, 1 Roman Catholic	3	
Jewish Orphanage	2	
Roman Catholic Institutions, as under:		
Benedictine Orphanage	1	
Providence Shelter	1	
St. Agnes Priory (Home of Good Shepherd)	1	
St. Boniface Orphanage and Old Folks' Home	1	
St. Joseph's Orphanage	1	
St. Norbert Orphanage	1	6
	<hr/> 6	<hr/> 16

This would give the following representation :

Protestant	7
Roman Catholic	7
Jewish	2

Each organization to have the privilege of nominating its own members.

DUTIES OF COMMITTEE

1. To meet once per week, or as often as work necessitates.
2. To consider and deal with all applications for the care of children in any of the institutions affiliated with Federated Budget Board.
3. To recommend the admission of children to the Institutions.
4. To recommend the discharge of children from affiliated Institutions when satisfied from reports of the Bureau that adequate provision has been made for their care.

GENERAL

The position of Children's institutions under this arrangement would be that all applications for admittance or discharge made direct to the institutions from Greater Winnipeg shall be referred to the Children's Bureau.

The management of each Children's institution will ever retain the right to accept or refuse any child or children recommended by the Children's Bureau.

It is to be understood that the Bureau will undertake the collection, as far as possible, of all moneys for the maintenance of children so recommended for fare by the Bureau Committee, but that the balance necessary for the adequate maintenance of such children after deducting Government, City and Municipal grants, shall be furnished as heretofore through the Federated Budget Board or other philanthropic sources.

NOTE:

The Federated Budget Board under date September 12th, 1925, has made the following stipulation re the Bureau.

"When the Bureau commences to function it may possibly be found necessary to make changes in the plan that has now been approved, but the Board wishes to be consulted before any such revisions are put into effect."

Canadian Child Welfare workers, especially in the larger centres in those provinces, where a Children's Protection Act and Children's Aid Societies exist, will watch the Winnipeg experiment with keen interest.

FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY, TORONTO INFANTS' HOME

A Triumph for "Placing Out"

Almost every day some interesting contribution to the mass of social bibliography reaches the office. Practically all of it is interesting, much of it is challenging and some inspiring. It is in the latter category that the recent report of the Toronto Infants' Home must be placed. It is the fiftieth report of this important institution and is especially valuable because of Mrs. A. D. Fisher's admirable compilation therein of the history of the Home. The record of the Home, its work and record might be taken as a record in miniature of the story of the care of dependent and neglected children over that period.

The report reflects to a greater degree than the greater percentage of the reports we receive, a long range vision of the whole field of child care and particularly child placement. The fifty years of the Toronto institution's story have been divided into the first forty-four years and the last six. The first period is almost entirely a record of institutional work and and of as high rank and standard as was carried on anywhere in the Dominion in that time. The work was started in 1875, with the purpose of "saving infant life through the prevention of ill-treatment or desertion of infants, the suppression of infanticide, providing a place where infants with their mothers could be cared for, at least during the first year of their lives. . . . Also to care for the infants of the respectable poor, widows, widowers, and deserted wives. . . . and to prevent baby-farming which was becoming very prevalent."

It was an ambitious and charitable programme truly which those generous and courageous women of fifty years ago started upon in a day when Children's Protection Acts and even many of the clauses of today's criminal code were not yet dreamed of. Miss Greig, one of the founders, was present at the anniversary, and hers would be a rich tale of struggle and achievement. Within two years of its foundation the Home had 219 inmates. Throughout the years its accommodation was rarely sufficient for its needs. This, Mrs. Fisher says, was one of the recurring problems throughout the Home's history. Secondly, it had to contend with the "ostrich" logic, that has been hurled at almost every endeavour in administration or legislation in this field but rarely proved,—viz. that the work tends to encourage vice. The third, tragic problem was also one common to the whole field of institutional care,—the appallingly high death rate of the infants and the almost continuous series of epidemics among the children. In the forty-four years there were no less than 35 epidemics. Another faithful feature of the large institution no matter how well organized or administered was always present—the marasmus or wasting baby. Everything was done to alleviate the prevalence of mortality. Advice was sought in other Canadian and in United States centres, but no more successful experiments seemed to be in existence. A hospital annex was added to provide for complete isolation.

And then, in one of the old annual reports, as Mrs. Fisher so aptly quotes, comes a clear glimmer of present day tenets: "One of the most encouraging parts of the work of the Infants' Home is thus **placing children in families where they will receive the individual love and care so necessary for every child.**" (Bold-faced type ours.) In 1885, the opening of the Lakeside Home through the generosity of Mr. John Ross Robertson, as a summer residence for several babies, marked another forward-looking step in the policy of the Home. Then follows a steady battle against the epidemics and the high death rate which wavered some years at 21 per cent, others at 15 per cent, others at 11 per cent.

Then in 1919, in the 45th year of the Home, developments began which, when the full achievement of the Toronto Infants' Home is realized, will profoundly affect, or should profoundly affect, the whole trend of institutional care in Canada, and especially in Ontario. A Reconstruction Committee was formed which recommended the placing-out of all the babies in private family homes and the abolition of the Infants' Home as such. When one realizes that this change was advocated in respect to an institution forty-five years in existence, with large and splendid buildings, closely

associated in effort, memory and actual tangible memorials (wards, etc.,) with the life of a city that had grown tremendously and with the interests and concepts of work of a large group of devoted board members, all representative citizens, the courage of the vision of the Committee takes one's breath. To the indefatigable president through these years, Mrs. J. D. Tyrell, too much credit cannot be given. For two years little headway was made, but after another sweeping epidemic in 1920, the exponents of "placing-out" were given a trial. Through the work of members stationed in a booth at the Toronto Exhibition 13 children were placed in free homes, and 10 in boarding homes. The experiment proved so successful, that now only five years later, there are no babies in the Infants' Home. They are all placed in individual homes. The main building of the Infants' Home is closed and the annex is used as offices only. Many more children of the frail type are cared for in especially selected homes, and obviously the accommodation is as unlimited as the number of good boarding homes, and under the careful and wise social work of the Home staff the supply of these latter seem exhaustless. But the great achievement of the new system is that since its inauguration there have been no epidemics in the Home and the mortality rate that was 43.2 per cent. on admissions in 1919 92 per cent on daily state) decreased to 3.2 per cent in 1922-3 (9.1 per cent. on daily state) and for 1925 was less than 1 per cent. (or 2.4 per cent. on daily state). In actual figures, of 408 children admitted last year only 4 died and two of these cases were hopeless from birth. We can hardly imagine a more satisfactory medical report for any child-caring agency. Alone, it should justify the claims of the placing-out system.

The report brings into relief, as does most of such work, the urgent need of some special provision for the idiot and imbecile child.

Probably the most important development now in process is the extension of private boarding-home care, under social supervision and guidance, to the unmarried mother herself. Judging by the report of the excellent executive secretary, Miss Moberley, it would seem that as much more can be accomplished by such treatment of the girl as has been accomplished by changed methods in placing the child in a kind home.

The high percentage of adoptions in co-operation with the Children's Aid Society and the transference of the Unmarried Parenthood work of the Neighbourhood Workers to the Infants' Home are further indications of the wide-visioned, courageous and generous spirit governing the work of this "Class A" institution. The manner in which it has adjusted itself to changing conditions in Toronto itself, the way it has faced readjustment and new developments in the social work of the city, and given leadership, when only courage and conviction could inspire it in its course have had a profound effect, not yet fully realized, on the whole field of child saving in the city. Canada has not many Infants' Homes that equal the Toronto institution, and if it has any better ones, we have not heard of them.

NOVA SCOTIA

Thirteenth Annual Report of the Superintendent of Neglected and Delinquent Children, for the year ending September 30th, 1925.

Mr. Blois' report for 1925 is as refreshing and frank as the big Nova Scotian himself. On the first page he says:

"It is best both for the final success of the great principles of child welfare and for the encouragement of the worker that the public should have a full and accurate view of things as they are.

During the year we have had a large measure of success but it is true we have our failures. All the children we have placed in foster homes have not turned out well, but a very large percentage have. All the boys and girls released from our reformatory institutions have not done as well as we would like but by far the larger number have so far proved law-abiding and trustworthy. All the problems presented have not been solved, but a considerable number have been and we have gained valuable experience which will help in solving the various problems presented during the coming year.

We can truthfully say that in spite of mistakes in judgment and failures due to various causes, a great deal of real effective work has been accomplished by the child welfare agencies of the Province; work which not only relieves much present pain and suffering on the part of helpless children, but which will result in increased happiness and usefulness to these children when they become the grown citizens of our Province. The real value of our work will be judged best in future years."

The problem of broken homes, of feeble-minded children, and of wayward children, Mr. Blois finds recurring increasingly in his work. In reference to the last-named type, he throws out a suggestion that might well be taken up across Canada.

"The first and most important step in this direction (control of young delinquents) is for parents and elder people generally to obey and respect the laws and legally constituted authority."

Mr. Blois has included the reports of all the local Children's Aid Societies in the report, with the result that it affords as fine a summary of the whole status of work in this field, as one could obtain. The inefficacy of the illegitimacy laws, the cruel, good intentions of a system that commits feeble-minded and unplaceable children to unsegregated life with adults in industrial refuges, the hard battle of forward-looking workers attempting to procure funds and buildings sufficient to carry on good work in a province, where taxes are high and many of the primary industries disturbed as in Nova Scotia, flash like the everchanging film of some wholly related and developing tale. And throughout the report there run, too, the firm, bright lines of encouragement and progress—the excellent report of the Maritime Home for Girls, the opening of the new Maritime Home for older women at Coverdale, Mr. Blois' own appointment as Juvenile Court Judge in Halifax, and finally the satisfactory massed statistics for the province. For in the year just closed, 214 children were delivered to the care of the societies. Within the twelve months 131 children were placed in foster homes and 70 returned to their parents or guardians. At that 224 children are still in temporary homes or shelters at public expense and 59 otherwise provided for—this includes, of course, the residue of commitments over a number of years. Delinquency, as reported, in the Juvenile Court statistics, has decreased.

Child welfare workers in 'Upper' Canada and the West should familiarize themselves with the extent and difficulty of the work in Nova Scotia. We must know each other's work and problems to a greater extent, if we are to evolve any national consciousness and contribution in social work. Workers in the Neglect and Dependency field cannot make a better beginning than by digesting Mr. Blois' report for 1925-26.

LEGISLATION IN PROCESS.

Alberta.

The Factories Act provides that "Wherever a minimum wage has been fixed for female workers in any class of employment, no male worker shall be employed in such class of employment at a less wage": provided that such wage shall not apply to apprentices who have been duly indentured and who are receiving proper instruction from the persons to whom they are apprenticed.

An amendment to the Mothers' Allowance Act provides for the giving of an allowance to the wife of a husband who is unable to support his family by reason of total disability which may reasonably be expected to continue for at least one year, resulting from sickness or accident.

Manitoba.

Amendments to the **Child Welfare Act**.

The meaning of a **dependent child** is extended to include any child over fourteen years of age, not capable of self-support on account of physical or mental incapacity.

For the purposes of the Mothers' Allowance Act, the Child Welfare Board's powers are enlarged to include the recommendations of rules and regulations not inconsistent with the provisions of the Act for the payment of allowances.

An orphaned dependent child for whom no one is liable to maintenance may be placed in a foster home, by a society or the Director of Child Welfare on the authority of the Child Welfare Board.

Municipal Child Welfare Committees of three members, holding office for one year, may be appointed by the Board to assist the Director.

An important amendment extends the term "neglected child" to include a child

"Whose parent, if one only be living, or parents, has or have allowed him or her to be brought up by another person at that person's expense for such time and under such circumstances as to satisfy the Court that such parent or the parents has or have been unmindful of his, her, or their parental duties."

An equally important amendment reserves the right of a mother to any powers under the Act, **even if she be under twenty-one years of age**.

Further power is conferred by the Act to exact bond from an alleged father to cover "the hearing of any appeal from any dismissal of the case against him at the trial thereof."

Another clause proposes that when no information has been laid in respect to the father of a child born out of wedlock, the Director of Child Welfare having regard to the welfare of such child may apply to the Court for a summons or warrant requiring the responsible parties to the case to attend such Court, where such action as is contemplated in the Act in respect to this group of children, may be taken.

Adoption agreements made before the Act came into force may be made absolute, if the Director issues a certificate of approval.

Possibly the most significant amendment is one which permits the continued detention by Order-in-Council of any feeble-minded person over twenty-one years of age, who is certified by the psychiatrist to be feeble-minded, or mentally defective, or of a mental age under fourteen years.

A comprehensive clause confers power on the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council to appoint a Commission of Public Inquiry, not exceeding three persons, to inquire at any time into the affairs and conduct of any institution.

Minimum Wage Act.

By an amendment to this Act it is sought to make the Act applicable to boys under the age of eighteen years and their employers.

Nova Scotia: Amendments to the Children's Protection Act.

Substitution throughout of the words "Director of Child Welfare" for "Superintendent of Neglected and Delinquent Children".

Legalizing procedure whereby the office of the Director of Child Welfare and of a Judge of the Juvenile Court of Halifax may be held by the same person at the same time. (See page 19).

An Act respecting Immigrant Children. (See page 19).

Ontario.

An amendment to the Adoption Act provides that an order of adoption of an illegitimate child made under this Act shall not be invalidated or in any way affected by the subsequent intermarriage of its parents.

In the **Federal House**, on March 31st, Miss Agnes McPhail moved the following resolution, which was passed unanimously, relative to Productive Work and Compensation for Inmates of Penitentiaries:

"That in the opinion of this House, the administration of penitentiaries be amended to provide: first, sufficient productive work to keep the inmates employed; and second, that a share of the proceeds go to dependents, and in case of no dependents such share to be held in trust until release".

This resolution is similar to the one that was presented last year, and Miss MacPhail quoted the following associations as being in favour of this or a similar resolution, or at least the principles involved. The Canadian Prisoners' Welfare Association; The Child Welfare Council of Canada; Neighbourhood Workers' Association, Toronto; The Trades and Labour Council of Canada; The United Farmers of Ontario; Superintendent of Penitentiaries; The Wardens of all the penitentiaries; The Canadian Bar Association; Committee of three appointed under the Right Hon. Mr. Doherty.

Office Jottings

Standardization of Chicago Day Nurseries.

The Chicago Association of Day Nurseries, in an effort to create satisfactory standards of child care in nurseries, has just made public the results of a study of these institutions recently completed.

Of the forty-nine day nurseries in and near Chicago, thirty-five answered the questionnaire, of which twenty-eight have been endorsed by the Membership Committee of the Association. The average daily attendance at the thirty-five nurseries is 1,217, which includes children of a few months to fourteen years of age in all the nurseries. Medical examinations of children are required before admission, and with only one exception meals are furnished, with special attention given to accepted diets by

seventeen institutions. Most of the nurseries either maintain their own kindergartens or have arrangements with outside agencies. Only one institution is self-supporting, the others deriving their incomes from tag days or contributions of interested individuals or organizations.

At the 1925 annual meeting of the Association, twelve standards for day nurseries were adopted, as follows:

1. Each nursery must meet and maintain all requirements of the Day Nursery ordinance.

2. The minimum age for admission to a nursery shall be nine months—preferably one year unless otherwise advised by a Child Welfare Agency.

3. There shall be Social Service investigation of all cases before acceptance into the nursery, and continued checking up of the family status.

4. Each child upon application for admission shall be given a thorough and complete medical examination by the nursery physician or at a dispensary or welfare station, and shall be re-examined periodically thereafter.

5. There shall be an examination of each child daily by the matron or superintendent before admission to the nursery.

6. Simple records of each child shall be kept up to date at the nursery, giving family history, also dates and findings of physical examinations.

7. All children shall be given two meals a day, consisting of a well-balanced dietary endorsed by child welfare experts.

8. All children under six shall wear nursery clothing when cleanliness demands.

9. There shall be a rest period daily of at least two hours for all children not attending school a full day.

10. There shall be at least two hours daily of supervised play for all children under six years of age, with provision for outdoor play.

11. Each nursery shall employ workers in the proportion of one adult to eight children, at least one of this group to be trained in child education and care. At no time shall nursery children be out of sight or hearing of an attendant.

12. There shall be pre-school training either within the nursery or at a nearby kindergarten, public school, church or settlement. (Social Service, issued by the Chicago Council of Social Agencies.)

A Girls' Health League

With the consent of the Board of School Trustees of Point Grey, British Columbia, a Girls' Health League is in course of formation, backed financially by the Federation of Parent-Teacher Associations. At present it is planned to equip two centres, and this equipment will be moved each year from one district to another. Instruction will be given to girls in grades seven and eight.

The aims of the League are: To create and sustain an interest in personal health and in the health of the community; to teach in a practical, simple way the underlying principles of caring for babies; to make each member of the class a health maker in the community.

To encourage and stimulate the interest of the girls the executive consisting of three officers and four other members will be elected by the League, the school nurse being an ex-officio member of all committees.

The success of the League will depend largely on the initiative and interest shown by the school nurse, and the lessons should be made interesting and practical.

The course will be divided into twenty lessons, one each week, and it is hoped that one-half hour of school time may be obtained for the League meeting. (The Canadian Nurse, April 1926.)

Mothers and Children kept together by the Family Welfare Association of Montreal.

The Province of Quebec has no Mothers' Pension legislation. The Provincial Government, however, during the year 1925, made a grant of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) to the Family Welfare Association of Montreal towards the Association's work of caring for widows in their own homes. The total expenditure of the Association for this purpose was Twenty-two Thousand Dollars (\$22,000.00) out of a total relief budget of approximately Eighty-eight Thousand Dollars (\$88,000.00), a sum which exceeds the total amount paid to the Protestant Children's Orphanages from the Quebec Public Charities Fund, while the total relief expenditure of the Association, \$88,000.00, is in excess of the total amount of Sixty-seven Thousand Dollars (\$67,000.00) paid to Protestant Charities from the Quebec Public Charities Fund, exclusive of the aid to hospitals.

In view of the figures of the Montreal Juvenile Court, which show that widowhood and desertion are the causes for most children appearing before the Court, and being placed in institutions, it is difficult to understand why the Government authorities, both civic and provincial, are prepared to help maintain a child when the damage to young lives has been done, but not in its own home, for in the event of a broken home being re-united, the Government grant ceases immediately. Undoubtedly the case of those who are under regular allowance of the Family Welfare Association should devolve upon the state, and not upon the Association, but as the state is neither willing nor equipped to give them service, the Association feels that it must shoulder this burden while continuing the slow process of educating public opinion.

National Dairy Council of Canada.

At the Seventh Annual Meeting of the National Dairy Council held at Quebec, February, 1926, a resolution was passed empowering its Executive to appoint an Educational Committee, and that it work in closest co-operation with Miss Campbell, the demonstrator and lecturer of the Dominion Department of Agriculture, and Miss Whitton, Secretary of the Canadian Council on Child Welfare.

Another resolution expressed the appreciation of the Dairy Council to the Canadian Public Health Association and the Canadian Council on Child Welfare for their kind co-operation with the Dairy Council in 1925 when they joined in the publication of a large billboard poster for the pur-

pose of increasing the drinking of milk by children; and further co-operation on these and other advanced lines was approved.

Miss Whitton had the privilege of addressing this meeting on co-operation between the National Dairy Council and the Canadian Council on Child Welfare in work for the betterment of Child Life in Canada by a greater use of dairy products.

TORONTO CHILDREN'S AID SOCIETY WINS IMPORTANT APPEAL.

That payment for "shelter" must be included by the Judge in ordering "a reasonable sum for the support of a child" committed to a Children's Aid Society, was the important decision given by the Court of Appeal on April 6, 1926.

For about a year, from November, 1923, to October, 1924, the Juvenile Court included interest and depreciation on the Children's Aid Society building, along with food, clothing, etc., in fixing the rate of court orders under Section 12 of the Act. However, at the end of that period the Judge decided that payment for housing the children was not within the scope of the order that he was authorized to make and thenceforward he issued maintenance orders that did not include anything for "shelter." The Society appealed one of the first of these orders—that for the Whitbread children—but the matter was allowed to stand in abeyance in the hope of reaching an understanding with the City.

After nearly a year's delay, decision has at last been given in the Society's favor by the unanimous judgment of the Court of Appeal presided over by Chief Justice Sir William Mulock, supported by Messrs. Justice Hodgins, Smith and Fisher.

The judgment in the case of the Whitbread children involves a sum of only \$219.00, but, as the City freely admitted, this was merely a test case. The total sum involved in like cases since the appeal is something over \$5,000.00.

The Children's Aid Society has rendered no small service to child welfare in Ontario in obtaining a definite interpretation of the Children's Protection Act for the guidance of the municipalities, Societies, and courts of the whole Province. It is believed also that the City of Toronto was almost as anxious as the Society to have an authoritative ruling on its legal obligations.

The Society has always thought the Children's Protection Act excellent legislation if properly interpreted, and is convinced that the decision just obtained should do much to offset the growing agitation throughout the Province for amendments to the Act to compel municipal financing of Children's Aid Societies. Such arguments can best be met by demonstrating that the present Act places a reasonable share of the cost of the public functions of a Children's Aid Society upon public funds. Then only can private funds be expected to carry willingly their fair share of the Society's various types of work.

The Society pays deep tribute to the efficient services of the Vice-President and Honorary Solicitor, W. B. Raymond, K. C., whose untiring labors, extending over a period of several years, have brought this matter to so satisfactory a conclusion.

That "Canadian education is in a shoddy, sloppy and stodgy condition" was the contention of Prof. W. F. Osborne, of the University of Manitoba, in his remarks before the Third Triennial **Conference of the National Council on Education and Citizenship**, held at Montreal, April 5th to 10th.

He also stated "One of the things which most pestilently and insidiously and gravely threatens the success of this democratic experiment is our smug complacency and the conspiracy of silence, that, although we know what the facts are, we never express them.

"Unless we conduct our educational experiments with more insight and a more grandiose conception of what can be achieved through the medium of the schools, we can abandon the idea of getting a really high Canadian nationality.

"I believe one of the main duties of the Canadian people and of Canadian educationists is to set ourselves, not in a bellicose way, not in a nasty way, but nevertheless with conviction, to resist the tide of American influences pervading us on every hand, which is besetting the tide of national life and that threatens to reduce to absolute banality and mediocrity our national life. One reason I prize Quebec,—one of the principal assets of Quebec—is precisely because in the tenacity of that race, the definiteness of its character, it will best assist us in resisting the tide of American banality.

"We have surrendered in this country holus-bolus to the continental idea that we must educate—that is to say—we must nominally ostensibly educate everybody. If we could really educate them, why all well and good, but if making it possible for every Tom, Dick and Harry of a rich man's son or a rich man's daughter who does not care a continental for education and so clog our educational machinery that it is impossible to establish an educational elite we are making a mistake.

"It is our duty to make it possible for every one to read and write and calculate, otherwise it is our duty to produce an intellectual elite, an elite not decided by blood or money but by competence and intellect which will make it worth the money expended. (The Star, Montreal, April 7, 1926.)

The Canadian Council on Child Welfare was represented at the Conference by Dr. Helen R. Y. Reid, Miss Violette Lafleur and Dr. A. Grant Fleming.

The Canadian Nurse, April 1926, carries an article by Miss E. G. Breeze, R. N., on **Little Mothers' League**, in the Vancouver (British Columbia) schools. The arrangement whereby this instruction in infant welfare is included in the Household Economics Curriculum has attained better results, in that every girl in the eighth grade takes the work, and it is given in school time and so is recognized as part of the curriculum. This experiment has been carried on for two years, and the close co-operation existing between the Household Economics Department and the School Nursing Department has been a great factor in its success.

In the same issue, Miss Elizabeth Jones, R. N., tells how an industrial nurse in Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, carries on child welfare work in combination with first aid work.

The Biennial Meeting of the Canadian Nurses' Association will be held in Ottawa, August 23 to 27, 1926.

Resolutions on Play, International Congress on Child Welfare.

At the first International Congress on Child Welfare, held at Geneva, August 1925, significant action was taken in the passage of the following resolutions on play:

- (1) Play, under proper supervision, is essential to normal physical and moral development. The playground together with the school and home, and religious institutions, are fundamental forces of social progress. It is the duty of the municipality to provide playgrounds, a trained personnel of supervisors protected by civil service and building for indoor exercises, games and recreation.
- (2) We ask for a broader recognition for the value of play and games in providing outlets for natural instincts and in developing self-reliance together with a willingness to subordinate self to the group. Organized games also offer a substitute for military methods of physical training and awake new interests which enrich the leisure homes of life.
- (3) We observe with satisfaction the rapid growth of a new profession, that of director of play and recreation, we emphasize the need of many volunteer leaders and the provision of short courses of training for them.
- (4) We demand for the child outdoor life in all its forms as an offset to the stress and strain of industrial and urban life and as refreshment for body and mind.
- (5) The Congress recommends the formation of national and local playground and recreation associations and asks the aid of other welfare organizations in furthering the aims we have outlined.

Relative to the Aims and Objectives of the Canadian Council on Child Welfare adopted as a guide in its programme for 1925-1930, at the annual meeting in September last, the DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH OF NEW BRUNSWICK has very kindly forwarded the following information:

A.—On Health (Physical and Mental Examination).

"This Department has established and maintained a system of medical inspection of schools of every school in the province. This includes mental examination of all school children as well as physical, note being taken of all school children so mentally defective as not to be able to keep up with their classes in ordinary school work because of real mental defect, which defect of course excludes persons of bad hearing and defective sight and other physical shortcomings which might render an otherwise mentally normal child, backward."

D.—On Mental Hygiene (Registration of Idiots and Imbeciles).

"Each such mentally defective child is duly registered by our school inspectors and at present we have six classes under specially qualified teachers for the purpose of educating such children, and we hope within a short time to have this number considerably augmented."

E.—On Education and Recreation (Technical School System).

"This province has established and is establishing in various centres vocational schools for the training of youths of both sexes in technical and semi- technical work."

(Compulsory School Attendance for at least 9 months, 7-15 years).

"This province has for many years past had compulsory school attendance by every pupil from 6 to some 14 years of age."

(Instruction in Health Education in the Normal Schools).

"For the past five years or six, this Department has given instruction to all pupil teachers in the Normal School, concerning Public Health, in an obligatory course covering from 24 to 26 lectures and demonstrations. Such course is a regular part of the curriculum for license for teaching and entails the usual examination."

It is also pointed out that the greatest need in New Brunswick is for the establishment and maintenance of public health nursing service looking to the proper care and management of infants from birth until one year of age, in their homes and in various institutions receiving and maintaining such infants. In other words, to materially and in a measurable way, promptly reduce the infant mortality of the province, which is at present and has been since the inception of the Public Health Act, the highest among the eight provinces of Canada collaborating in the service of Vital Statistics.

The Education Office of the Province of Nova Scotia, informs us, with reference to Section E—On Education, that for rural schools attendance is compulsory from 7 to 14 years of age, and in urban schools from 6 to 16. Provision is made in the Normal Schools for Health Instruction. With reference to Section D—On Mental Hygiene, there is no appropriate provision yet for the general segregation of young people who are not sufficiently normal to take care of themselves.

PUBLICATIONS.

Report of the British Departmental Committee on Sexual Offences Against Young Persons, 1925: A detailed study on the prevalence of such offences, the laws governing those offences, court jurisdiction, administration of the law, matters relating to the offender, provisions for the welfare of young persons affected, and the Committee's recommendations. (His Majesty's Stationery Office, London, England.)

Sixth Report of the Technical Education Branch of the Department of Labour, Canada, on the Operations of the Technical Education Act Assented to July 7, 1919, for the Fiscal Year ending March 31, 1925, (School Year ending June 30).

Proceedings of the Interprovincial Conference on Vocational Education, Calgary, April 17-18, 1925.

Posture Charts: A set of six charts on posture standards for boys and girls for the use of physicians, nurses, physical-education teachers, athletic directors, and clinics, each chart approximately 24 x 34 inches, planned for the Children's Bureau of the United States. The set of six may be purchased from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C., for 50 cents.

Child Labor in Fruit and Hop Growing Districts of the Northern Pacific Coast: Publication No. 151. Children's Bureau, U. S. Department of Labor, Washington, D. C., U. S. A.

Disobedience, Lying, Stealing, Environment: (Material added to Child Management in October, 1925). Publication of the Children's Bureau, U. S. Department of Labour, Washington, D. C., U. S. A.

References on Child Labor and Minors in Industry, 1916-1924: Publication No. 147, Children's Bureau, U. S. Department of Labor, Washington, D. C., U. S. A.

Vocational Guidance and Junior Placement: Publication No. 149, Children's Bureau, U. S. Department of Labor, Washington, D. C., U. S. A.

The Developments of Juvenile Courts and Probation: Proceedings of the National Probation Association, 1925, published by the National Probation Association, Inc., 370 Seventh Avenue, New York,, U. S. A.

Association to Promote Proper Housing for Girls, Inc., Annual Report, January 1, 1925 to January 1, 1926. (108 East 30th Street, New York City, U. S. A.

Tell Your Children the Truth. A Social Hygiene Booklet for Parents published by the Canadian Social Hygiene Council, 40 Elm St., Toronto 2, Ont.

Social Problems of Migrating Children, report read at the First General Congress on Child Welfare, August 1925, published by the International Migration Service, 10 rue de la Bourse, Geneva, Switzerland.

Annual Report of the Immigration and Travellers' Aid Department, 1925, Dominion Council of the Young Women's Christian Associations of Canada, 12 Dundonald St., Toronto 5, Canada.

Industrial Accidents to Employed Minors in Wisconsin, Massachusetts, and New Jersey: Publication No. 152, Children's Bureau, U. S. Department of Labor, Washington, D. C., U. S. A.

Annual Survey of Education in Canada, 1924. Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Ottawa, Canada, 1926.

Annual Report of the Children's Aid Society of the County of Bruce, Ontario. 1925.

Annual Report of the Children's Aid Society, City of Stratford, County of Perth, and Town of St. Mary's, Ontario, 1925.

Maternal Mortality in Great Britain. Report of Dr. Janet Campbell to the Ministry of Health. (H. M. Stationery Office, London, England.)

Vocational Guidance. A Departmental Committee Report published by H. M. Stationery Office, London, England.

The Immigration Program of Canada by R. H. Coats, Dominion Statistician, Ottawa, Canada. (Pollak Foundation for Economic Research, Newton 58, Massachusetts, U. S. A.